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Southeast Asia Report

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5 October 1984

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COMMENTARY ON SIHANOUK'S PRESENCE AT UN

BK191319 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Unattributed commentary: "Sihanouk's Presence at the UN General Assembly"]

[Text] The presence of Prince Sihanouk at the UN General Assembly, which opened its annual session this week, will foil Vietnam's diplomatic steps on a solution to the Kampuchean issue. Prior to his departure from Vienna for New York last Monday, the CGDK president told newsmen that he was not only critical of Vietnam but also of the Khmer Rouge. Sihanouk considered as trickery a Vietnamese offer put forth by Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach last week, while he criticized the Khmer Rouge for having committed atrocities prior to the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea.

The Vietnamese offer conveyed by its foreign minister in an interview broadcast by the Japanese news agency expressed Vietnam's readiness to hold talks with ASEAN without any precondition. In addition, the Vietnamese offer proposes that a group of neutral countries, including Japan, form a peace-keeping force in Kampuchea. Observers, however, doubt whether the Vietnamese offer reflects the official stand of the Hanoi government or merely represents its foreign minister's diplomatic move on the eve of the annual session of the UN General Assembly.

Foreign Minister Suppiah Dhanabalan said last week that Nguyen Co Thach should contact Indonesia and Malaysia on the Vietnamese offer when he attends the annual session of the UN General Assembly. It remains to be seen whether the Vietnamese foreign minister will accept the Singapore foreign minister's advice. However, it was only a day following Dhanabalan's remarks that Sihanouk issued a statement considering the Vietnamese offer as trickery to mislead public opinion.

The CGDK president's statement has made the Vietnamese offer meaningless. The Sihanouk statement in fact reflected his intention to attend the annual session of the UN General Assembly as president of the CGDK. His presence in New York will dash Vietnam's hope to have the Kampuchean seat vacant in the world body. Sihanouk probably views that last week's Vietnamese offer aims to have the Kampuchean seat vacant at the annual session of the UN General Assembly. Nevertheless, this conclusion should be proved by taking Vietnam's next moves into account following Sihanouk's presence at the UN General Assembly.

CSO: 4213/274

COMMENTARY TERMS EAST TIMOR ISSUE SETTLED

BK181342 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Unattributed commentary: "East Timor, an Integral Part of Indonesia"]

[Text] After calling on President Suharto in Jakarta on Monday, Foreign Minister Mokhtary Kusumaatmaja made it clear that Indonesia was ready to face a possible debate on or the postponement of a discussion of the East Timor issue during the UN General Assembly meeting due to begin in New York today. However, the debate was postponed last year. Indonesia will gain a psychological advantage if the debate is again postponed this year.

The East Timor issue has in fact three aspects--a national aspect for Indonesia, a national aspect for Portugal, and an international aspect for both Indonesia and Portugal, particularly at the UN forum. Indonesia, however, considers the East Timor issue to be settled. East Timor's incorporation into Indonesia in 1976 constituted a realization of self-determination on the basis of the wishes of [words indistinct]. The self-determination was exercised by the East Timor people during the period of a power vacuum in East Timor as a result of Portugal's abandonment, leading to chaos and civil war. The Portuguese action was nothing but an abandonment of its responsibility and promise of self-determination for the territory.

Thus, any problems on East Timor in fact arise is Portugal itself and are related to its Constitution [words indistinct] will testify to the development under which East Timor has merged with Indonesia. Indonesia has declared East Timor an inalienable part of its sovereignty.

It is on this basis that East Timor should not be discussed at international forums, although Indonesia raises no objection to the issue's being peacefully settled by taking present facts into account. The world can also witness how East Timor has achieved progress following its incorporation into Indonesia. Such progress had never taken place during more than 400 years of Portuguese colonization. This progress has in fact been admitted by international organizations that have long been active in the territory. Anti-Indonesian elements are the exceptions.

CSO: 4213/274

COMMENTARY VIEWS TANJUNGPRIOK RIOTING

BK141330 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Commentary: "Stern Action Against Acts of Disruption"]

[Text] Entering its 39th year, the Indonesian Armed Forces [ABRI] faced a group of irresponsible rioters in Tanjungpriok, north Jakarta, on Wednesday night. The incident, however, was quickly brought under control thanks to the alertness of all the security personnel who first resorted to approaches. Detailing the Tanjungpriok incident chronologically on Thursday, ABRI commander and concurrently commander of the Security and Order Restoration Command [Kopkamtib] General L.B. Murdani, who was accompanied by Information Minister Harmoko, said that the government would continue to deal sternly and strongly with irresponsible rioters, including those masterminding the Tanjungpriok incident. According to Gen L.B. Murdani, the measures were taken in the interest of all the Indonesian people. He explained that the Tanjungpriok incident was due to agitation by a group of people who misused religion and places of worship.

We deeply regret the incident characterized by the destruction of people's belongings by irresponsible elements at a time when our country is actively carrying out national development. The quick and correct action taken by the ABRI to prevent the incident from spreading were clearly a reflection of its mission not only as a defense and security force but also as a socio-political force.

National stability is a precondition for the implementation of national development. President Suharto has always stated that the years ahead remain difficult years. At home, we still have to solve tremendous socio-economic problems such as the expansion of job opportunities and over population. However, by learning from history, we are confident that we will manage to overcome such difficulties although the results may not be as full as expected. Accordingly, we should pay attention to commander of the ABRI and Kopmaktib General Murdani who asked all the people to remain vigilant and not inattentive of parties who do not hesitate to sacrifice the people's interests irresponsibly by using various pretexts including the misuse of noble religious teachings. The government is also calling

on the people to remain vigilant against any possible disruption, agitation, appeal, provocation, and coercion which can mislead them. In addition, it wishes the people to be calm and carry out their daily duties in an orderly manner.

We confidently hope to have a better tomorrow by working hard shoulder to shoulder to carry out development set by the government under a stable national situation.

CSO: 4213/274

JAKARTA DAILIES COMMENT ON TANJUNGPRIOK RIOTING

BK150440 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Report from the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the Tanjungpriok incident, the ANGKATAN BERSENJATA daily praises the quick action and readiness of the armed forces security units in keeping the situation under control. The daily also appreciates the quick action taken by the commander of the Security and Order Restoration Command [KOPKAMTIB], who spontaneously informed the public of what had happened. In this way, the daily says, it will not only fulfill the public's [words indistinct] and provide them with information, but will also help prevent the possibility of instigation or persuasion by parties wanting to worsen the situation. Of course, we cannot entirely entrust the government, the armed forces or the KOPKAMTIB with handling the problem. The daily says that the public's assistance and participation is highly needed.

Also regarding the problem of public disturbances, such as what has occurred in Tanjungpriok, the daily MERDEKA calls on the government to be more alert toward developments in society and to exert its utmost efforts to remove the sources of the existing tension and restlessness. In this way, the daily says, the situation will return to normal following the incident in North Jakarta, while social unity and cohesion can be further enhanced and preserved in the best possible manner.

The daily SUARA KARYA underlines the spontaneity of disclosing what really happened. In this connection, the commander of the armed forces and concurrently commander of the KOPKAMTIB spontaneously gave an explanation over the radio before midnight on the riot in Tanjungpriok, North Jakarta. [Words indistinct] or its link with the Tanjungpriok incident, it will be best for us to remember the possibility of the use of religion, race and intergroups by communist elements who are still trying to surface. However, alertness should not be directed only toward the communist elements, because our history shows that the enemy of Pancasila is not just the extreme leftists but also the extreme rightists. [Passage indistinct].

CSO: 4213/274

MORE DAILIES COMMENT ON TANJUNGPRIOK RIOTING

BK161429 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Report from the press review]

[Text] The Tanjungpriok incident is still highlighted in various newspapers. Published in Bandung, PIKIRAN RAKYAT urges us to ponder the highly regrettable incident and remove the emotional sentiments. We should evaluate the incident with cool heads because it seems there are those who still want to play with fire despite the facade of a harmonious spirit.

SINAR HARAPAN expresses gratitude that the Tanjungpriok incident was successfully localized and swiftly settled. However, the daily believes that greater vigilance could have averted such an incident. Vigilance must be further enhanced while the implementation of national development must be kept in view so that misinterpretation will not occur. A high sense of vigilance to ensure the success of national development and the practice of Pancasila state ideology as we are approaching the year 2000 should be combined wisely.

PELITA firmly states that nobody has benefitted or felt happy over the incident. The incident has immediately been recorded as one of the darkest moments in our history, but with the wisdom of all sides, PELITA hopes the incident is the last one to be experienced by our country. The daily hopes the government will be able to comprehensively solve the problem by placing full responsibilities on those who are really guilty. The government should also thoroughly localize the issue so that nobody feels [word indistinct].

KOMPAS believes that a deep introspection must be carried out both by the government and the public so that the tragic Tanjungpriok incident will never be repeated. It is true that the incident has been controlled and considered as over; but if we are unable to [words indistinct] over the sensitive issues, such unhappy events will take place again. According to KOMPAS, an early detection on any potential troubles can be conducted through a two-way communication system, which means reviving the press freedom as well as the freedom of expressing constructive and responsible criticisms. This is because all problems arising in the society need the explanation from the [word indistinct], the government, and the public

itself. The government should dare face what the public really thinks. It should not give response by issuing appeals after receiving reports from its personnel who mostly want to please their superiors.

BERITA YUDHA calls on all parties, especially the younger generation to really comprehend the significance of national unity and integrity so that they will not be led astray by agitations. The daily does not forget the possibility that remnants of the PKI [Communist Party of Indonesia] were involved in the Tanjungpriok incident. BERITA YUDHA calls on us to recall the PKI rebellions in 1948 and 1965, both of which happened in September. Therefore, vigilance must always be maintained at all times. We must be vigilant over attempts to undermine the unity and integrity of the nation wherever they come from--external or internal.

CSO: 4213/274

BRIEFS

DANGER IN TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCE--Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja is of the opinion that the world is entering the most dangerous period in the history of mankind due to rapid advances of technology and nuclear weapons. Minister Mokhtar expressed his view at the 2d [word indistinct] seminar at the campus of Gajahmada University, Yogyakarta, today. He further said that besides having positive effects, the development of science and technology also has negative effects such as concern over the outbreak of a nuclear war that can destroy all life on the face of the earth. Accordingly, Foreign Minister Mokhtar advised the Indonesian people to keep the mandate enshrined in the Preamble of the 1945 Constitution which is the foundation of Indonesia's foreign policy--to contribute to world peace. On the occasion, Dean of the Medical Faculty of Gajahmada University (Suprono) emphasized the important role of doctors in maintaining peace through the realization of a healthy and prosperous society. [Text] [BK181436 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 18 Sep 84]

NAVAL EXERCISE WITH THAILAND--A joint exercise between the Indonesian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy code-named "Sea Garuda-5" [Sea Garuda lima] has started in the Gulf of Thailand, some 300 miles from Bangkok. The exercise involves three Indonesian warships--KRI Teluk Mandar, KRI Samadikun, and KRI Fatahillah--and five Thai warships. Such maneuvers have been conducted by the two countries since 1975. The current maneuver is the sixth [keenam]. Besides holding joint naval exercises, Indonesia and Thailand also exchange students of the staff and command colleges of each branch of the armed forces. [Text] [BK141507 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 14 Sep 84]

CSO: 4213/274

BRIEFS

RED CROSS AID DISTRIBUTION--Phnom Penh, 7 Sep (SPK)--The Kampuchean Red-Cross had by the end of August distributed 150 tonnes of rice; donation from the HRC [High Commissioner for Refugees] to 3,000 families which had repatriated to various localities in Kompong Chhnang Province. In addition, 300 tonnes of paddy were given to repatriates in the province of Prey Veng by early last month. [Text] [BK071344 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1108 GMT 7 Sep 84]

AID TO FLOOD VICTIMS--Phnom Penh, 18 Sep (SPK)--A delegation of the Flood Relief Committee led by Yit Kimseng, minister of public health, on Monday distributed relief to 3,140 families afflicted by floods at S'ang District in Kandal Province. The aid consists of 60 [metric] tons of rice, 9,620 liters of kerosene, 107 bags of salt, and a number of mosquito nets, blankets, clothes, and household utensils. Representatives of international humanitarian organizations stationed in Phnom Penh were also on hand at the distribution. [Text] [BK191430 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1118 GMT 18 Sep 84]

MINISTER GREETSI SIERRA LEONE COUNTERPART--Phnom Penh, 17 Sep (SPK)--Kampuchean Foreign Minister Hun Sen has extended his congratulations to His Excellency Sheka Kanu on his appointment as foreign minister of the Republic of Sierra Leone. Hun Sen, also vice premier and Politburo member of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, wished Sheka Kanu the "best of health and more successes" in his noble task. "May the ties of friendship and solidarity between our two peoples and countries further strengthen and develop," Hun Sen added. [Text] [BK171340 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1059 GMT 17 Sep 84]

DELEGATION TO PARIS--Phnom Penh, 13 Sep (SPK)--A Kampuchean delegation led by Yos Son, press-department head of Ministry for Foreign Affairs, recently attended the traditional festival of the L'HUMANITE, the newspaper of the French Communist Party. The festival was held in Paris on 8-9 September. [Text] [BK141152 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1116 GMT 13 Sep 84]

SPK DELEGATION TO ULAANBAATAR--Phnom Penh, 4 Sep (SPK)--A delegation of KAMPUCHEAN NEWS AGENCY 'SPK' led by Em Sam-An, general director, left here Tuesday for Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, to attend the conference at the general director level of the news agency of the socialist countries. It was seen off at the Pochentong Airport by Sum Mean and I Lon, vice general director of SPK, and other personnel. [Text] [BK041329 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1116 GMT 4 Sep 84]

DELEGATION TO VISIT GDR, CSSR-- Phnom Penh, 6 Sep (SPK)--A delegation of the Commission for Propaganda and Education of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea left Phnom Penh Thursday for an official visit to the German Democratic Republic and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. The delegation led by Nim Thot, vice-president of the commission, was seen off at the Pochentong Airport by Khieu Kanharith, editor-in-chief of KAMPUCHEA. The delegation is scheduled to give lectures on Kampuchea's national defense and construction. [Text] [BK071344 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1112 GMT 6 Sep 84]

KOMSOMOL GIFT--Phnom Penh, 18 Sep (SPK)--The All-Union Leninist Communist Youth League of the USSR [Komsomol] and the organization of Leninist Pioneers have offered gifts to the Kampuchean revolutionary youth. The gifts, consisting of exercise books and other school furniture, were recently handed over during a ceremony to Kang Nem, acting secretary of the provisional committee of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Youth Union, by Lebidinski, counsellor of the USSR Embassy in Kampuchea. On that occasion, Kang Nem pointed out the determination of the entire Kampuchean youth in serving the revolutionary cause. He also thanked Soviet youths and pioneers for their generous assistance. [Text] [BK181046 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0413 GMT 18 Sep 84]

PARTY DELEGATION TO ETHIOPIA--Phnom Penh, 3 Sep (SPK)--A KPRP delegation led by Heng Samkai, member of the KPRP Central Committee, left this morning for socialist Ethiopia to attend the first congress of the Working People's Party of Ethiopia. The delegation was seen off by Sim Ka, member of the KPRP Central Committee and minister in charge of the inspection of state affairs, and other personalities. [Text] [BK041329 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1155 GMT 3 Sep 84]

INDIAN GIFT OF FRIENDSHIP--Phnom Penh, 4 Sep (SPK)--D.B. Malik, India's charge d'affaires to Kampuchea, delivered a gift offered by his government to Pen Navouth, minister of education, in a ceremony in Phnom Penh on Monday, 3 September. Among other things, the gift included more than 352,000 meters of cloth given as a token of longstanding friendship between India and Kampuchea, according to B. B. Malik. [Excerpt] [BK01329 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0428 GMT 4 Sep 84]

CSO: 4219/57

BRIEFS

MINISTER REVIEWS THAI BORDER TENSION--The visiting vice minister for foreign affairs of Laos, Mr Souban Salitthilat, has met the secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Mr Ramesh Bhandari, and apprised him of the tense situation along the Lao-Thailand border. Speaking to newsmen in New Delhi, Mr Souban Salitthilat said that Thai troops occupied three Lao villages in June this year which resulted in the present tense situation. He said India as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement should take note of the developments in this sensitive region. Mr Bhandari and Mr Souban Salitthilat have agreed that every effort should be made to solve the problem through peaceful means. [Text] [BK191359 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 19 Sep 84]

PERFORMERS RECEIVE SRV MEDALS--Vientiane, 13 Sep (OANA-KPL)--Thirty Lao folk artists were awarded with friendship medals of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The honour was presented following their successful performances presented at the 3rd Folk Festival of the three countries of Laos, Vietnam, [and] Kampuchea recently held in the central part of Vietnam. The Lao artists who also entertained the public of Ho Chi Minh City and other places also received the friendship medals, 2 friendship banners and congratulatory certificates conferred to them by Ho Chi Minh City. [Text] [BK131656 Vientiane KPL in English 0920 GMT 13 Sep 84]

AID FROM SRV PROVINCE--Vientiane, 13 Sep (OANA-KPL)--The public health service of the Vietnamese Binh Tri Thien Province recently sent two tons of medicines to its Lao sister province of Savannakhet. The medicines will be supplied to the people in areas of Champhon, Songkhon, Outhoumphon and Atsaphangthong districts which were affected by the recent flood overflowing the Mekong banks due to heavy rain. The Vietnamese province in addition sent 5 tons of rice seeds for the purpose of transplantation a new [as received] the damaged fields. [Text] [BK131656 Vientiane KPL in English 0929 GMT 13 Sep 84]

CHAMPASSAK MEETING--Vientiane, 7 Sep (KPL)--The provincial administrative committee of Champassak recently organized a meeting to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Vietnamese national day which was attended by nearly 2,000 rpt 2,000 persons. Among those present at the meeting were Thong-in Thammakot, vice-secretary of the provincial party committee, and a number of officials. Ngo Quy Ean, the counsellor of the Vietnamese Embassy to Laos,

and experts of the sister province of Ngia Binh of Vietnam were also on hand. At the meeting, the Lao and the Vietnamese sides respectively addressed the gathering noting on the great achievements gained by Vietnamese Army and People in national safeguarding and building during the past 39 years. They also pointed out the unceasing development of friendship relations, special combatant solidarity and all-round cooperations between the parties, government and peoples of Laos and Vietnam as well as [among] Laos, Vietnam [and] Kampuchea. [Text] [BK071240 Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 7 Sep 84]

CS0: 4200/1073

EDITORIAL EXAMINES SECRETARY OF STATE SHULTZ'S VISIT

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 11 Jul 84 p 22

[Editorial]

[Text] Taking advantage of his talks with ASEAN foreign ministers in Jakarta, U.S. Secretary George Shultz paid a special visit to our country to exchange views with our prime minister and deputy prime minister on the bilateral relationship and other international problems of mutual concern. This amply indicates Malaysia's growing stature in U.S. eyes.

In the wake of our prime minister's visit to America early this year, a number of high-ranking U.S. government officials have called at Malaysia one after the other. Before Shultz, two of his close aides had visited our country. One was Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam, who arrived here last February to discuss about trade and investment problems; the other was Mr Paul Wolfowitz, assistant secretary of state in charge of Pacific affairs, who came here in early May to brief us about the results of President Reagan's visit to China. (This time Wolfowitz accompanied Shultz to Jakarta). Furthermore, Jeane Kirkpatrick, U.S. permanent representative to the UN, paid a 3-day visit to our country at the behest of President Reagan to "strengthen further" the relationship between the two countries.

Officials of the U.S. State Department frankly told us that this series of visitations indicates "U.S. realization of Malaysia's importance within the Association of South East Asian Nations [ASEAN] and in the U.S.-Malaysian bilateral relationship."

This development is, of course, one of the results of our prime minister's visit to America early this year. Recently, the United States openly admitted that our prime minister's visit to Washington was "most beneficial to the strengthening of our bilateral relationship and simultaneously to the promotion of cooperation in trade, investment and international affairs."

In vigorously promoting the bilateral development a step further, our prime minister also asserted our hopes that the United States would pay more attention to the legitimate aspirations and needs of the Third World and at the same time adopt concrete measures to help them realize their aspirations.

Based on these criteria, it is evident that many aspects of U.S.-Malaysian relationship need to be improved urgently.

For instance, our prime minister stressed to Secretary Shultz the ill effects of the increase in U.S. bank rates. It is common knowledge that this problem has worried the Communist nations and the Third World, and directly endangered our country's national interests. According to preliminary estimate, every time America increases its prime rate by 1 percent, Malaysia has to pay an additional M\$14.7 million interest per year for our foreign debt. Although fluctuation of prime interest rates are not decided upon by the White House, its steady rise has been caused by the huge budget deficits of the Reagan administration. Therefore, Washington has the obligation to put a stop to it.

Our bilateral economic relationship has not been placed on a fair and reasonable foundation as Malaysia has vigorously requested. Since the beginning of 1981, our foreign trade with America has changed from a favorable to an unfavorable balance. But the United States has not taken any concrete step to attain trade equilibrium. The U.S. side has shown some goodwill with regard to the dumping of its tin stock, but much remains to be done. This, and the problem of a rubber agreement, still constitute the two thorns in our bilateral relationship.

It is fine that the United States can appreciate the importance of Malaysia's position. What is more realistic, however, is to help us realize our reasonable aspirations. Through a steady round of visitations by high ranking officials, it is believed that Malaysia's desires will win the United States' deeper and better understanding.

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CSO: 4205/70

SECRETARY SHULTZ'S STATEMENT ON PRC EXAMINED

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 13 Jul 84 p 2

[Commentary]

[Text] Concluding his visit to Malaysia, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz told a news conference that the existing good relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China would be conducive to Southeast Asia's peace and stability, as well as China's economic development and prosperity.

This was the second time that the U.S. secretary of state stressed his country's attitude and standpoint toward China. Calling on Prime Minister Dr Mahathir on the first day of his arrival here 9 July, George Shultz clearly stated that the PRC would not adopt a hostile policy vis-a-vis Southeast Asia, on the grounds that China is concentrating on the success of her four modernizations program and vigorously promoting her cooperation with America and other countries toward her own economic prosperity.

Nevertheless, Malaysia and other ASEAN members are worried over the fine Washington-Beijing relationship, and also that after successfully completing her modernization program, China will loom large as a threat to our region.

Prime Minister Dr Mahathir frankly told Shultz that as China becomes an economic and military power, she is likely to adopt a hostile attitude toward us. Our anxiety is attributed to the fact that when our foreign minister visited Peking last month, Chinese leaders still refused to terminate their relation with the Communist Party of Malaya. Indeed, our worries over this matter are not without foundation.

In the past, the United States has always been recognized as the world's leader against the communist camp, but now she has made a 180-degree turn in her attitude toward China. Surely this policy shift must have been the result of analyses and researches by U.S. specialists, and not an abrupt change overnight.

Compared with other advanced countries, the PRC has lagged behind the times by 20 to 30 years. It was only after the Cultural Revolution that she renounced her closed-door policy and began to come in contact with various

countries of the world, establishing trade and diplomatic relations and absorbing high technology from the West in an effort to catch up with industrialized nations.

It is human nature for a person to strive to "make his country rich and build up its military power," and this should be the correct attitude of a loyal citizen. Such an attitude should give no cause for much criticism. However, to say that once a country becomes economically powerful, she develops an ambition to attack other people, why, this is not an absolute axiom, although we cannot deny that such facts do exist. There are many rich and prosperous countries in the world whose people keep abiding by the law and serving the development of their own country. On the other hand, there are countries which keep fomenting trouble abroad--although they cannot properly feed and clothe their own people--, and threatening world peace and security.

Therefore, we believe that a country's power and prosperity has no absolute connection with threatening world peace.

Based on China's historical records and the characteristics of the Chinese people, there has been no incident showing China riding roughshod over other people. The fact that the United States can discard her traditional anti-communist attitude and establish trade and diplomatic relations with China, and that she believes her fine cooperation with China will help further Southeast Asia's peace and stability--all this is an incisive ground for argument which has not been easy to arrive at.

Viewed from the present global situation, China's economic strength will contribute to world peace and step up the development of the world economy.

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CSO: 4205/70

NORMALIZED RELATIONS WITH PRC URGED

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 16 Jul 84 p 3

[Text] Lim Kit Siang, secretary general of the Democratic Action Party [DAP], today urged the Malaysian government to change its so-called "Chinese military threat is greater than Soviet's" attitude and to normalize its relations with the PRC comprehensively.

He also hoped the government would completely lift its restriction on travels to China in order to encourage Malaysians to take part in China's modernization plans.

He said: "This way, Malaysia not only will get economic benefit, but also ease the international tension in this region."

As leader of opposition party and Parliament member representing Malacca, Lim Kit Siang made these remarks at the DAP's 1984 general assembly in Kuala Lumpur today. He said that the government simply has no excuse to rationalize on the formulation of this foreign policy, but that it is because it does not trust the loyalty of the Malaysian Chinese, fearing that they might become China's "fifth columnists."

Lim pointed out that this government attitude not only sullies the honor of Malaysian Chinese, but also explains the failure of our government leadership in the 27 years of national reconstruction since independence.

He said the reason the Malaysian government continues to forbid Malaysians to travel to China (with few exceptions) is that it is afraid that after returning here from China, they will become subversive elements or fifth columnists.

He continued: "This is a shortsighted policy, because it signifies government distrust in the loyalty of its citizens and its lack of appreciation that after returning from a China trip, the Malaysian Chinese can become even more loyal to Malaysia."

There is a great difference between the Malaysian way of life and the communist way of life, Lim explained. Consequently, after coming back from a visit to China, Malaysians will become more Malaysian in their outlook toward life.

He refuted the allegation by certain quarters who charged that the emigration of Chinese intellectuals and professionals to other countries is proof positive of their disloyalty toward Malaysia. Before blaming them for moving away, we must first blame our policy makers, Lin said.

He added that those intellectuals and professionals did not emigrate to China but to Australia, the British Commonwealth, the United States or some other country. This fact shows that there is no truth that Malaysian Chinese can become China's fifth columnists.

Lim Kit Siang also said that the government should review its "Chinese military threat is greater than Soviet's" viewpoint, particularly seen in light of Soviet Union's steady military expansion in the Asian and Pacific region. Soviet military strength in this region is adequate enough to confront China, can threaten Japan and even influence various governments in Southeast Asia.

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CSO: 4205/71

TEE ANN CHUAN SEES TWO 'LATENT CRISES' FACING NATION

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 30 Jun 84 p 2

[Text] Tee Ann Chuan reminded youth leaders that Malaysia will be faced with two latent crises: collapse of our national economy due to the burden of foreign debts and the gradual decline of rights and interests of ethnic-Chinese citizens.

On the surface, Malaysia is the second most prosperous and strongest country in Southeast Asia after Singapore, and its living standards are much higher than Thailand and Indonesia. Yet, nobody seems to be concerned with the latent economic crisis facing us. And what is this lurking danger? One day we will worry that Malaysia's economy, burdened with foreign debts, will collapse totally.

The national leader of the Malaysian Youth Solidarity Movement [MYSM] made these remarks while speaking before 100 youth leaders gathered at the "First District-Level Kota Star MYSM Cadre Training Camp" near Alor Star, Kedah State today.

Mr Tee posed a question: "How large is our country's foreign debt?" He answered: "Ever since 1961 our country started borrowing money from foreign countries, and by 31 December, 1983, our foreign and domestic debts have reached M\$40 billion.

"In 1984, there is great discrepancy between government revenues and expenditures. Revenues from taxes amount to M\$19 billion, while expenditures reach M\$28 billion, a deficit of M\$9 billion. By May of this year, our country has borrowed M\$40 billion, including M\$30 billion from Japan and the remaining M\$10 billion from European consortiums, Canada and the United States. It is anticipated that by the end of this year, our foreign debts will have soared to M\$50 billion. Counting Malaysia's population as 15 million, this would mean that every citizen has to share a burden of M\$3,333 on the average. By way of comparison, in Mexico, which owes the largest foreign debts of US\$90 billion and whose population numbers 70 million, the averaged foreign debts shared by its citizens amount to only M\$3,000. In other words, Malaysia has become the world's largest debt-ridden country."

Talking about our tax revenues, Tee Ann Chuan pointed out, Malaysia is lucky to have oil income, which amounts to one-third (M\$6 billion) of the total government revenue, from oil taxation in Trengganu and Sarawak. However, the exploitation of oil can last only 15 years. After the oil is completely explored, tax income will also be finished, and foreign debts are bound to escalate. If this situation goes on, how can our national economy escape the danger of total collapse? What will happen to the Malaysian people then? All this makes one shudder indeed.

Under the prevailing political situation, we have no political power to change this trend yet. Too few among the people are actively involved in affairs of state, although we hope that we will be able to cultivate sufficient talent in the future.

"The political rights and interests of the ethnic-Chinese citizens of Malaysia are going from bad to worse. If the national economy is confronted with a crisis, the future of the Chinese will be in danger too. We can imagine that in the future political rights and population growth will go hand in hand in direct proportion."

Mr Tee Ann Chuan continued: "Population ratio directly affects the delineation of electoral districts. If we have more Chinese population, we will have more representatives in Parliament and state assemblies, and our rights in the central and state governments will improve accordingly. But what happens to the Chinese population? Between 1970 and 1980, the Chinese population increased from 3.4 million to 3.8 million, whereas the Malays increased from 4.8 million to 6.3 million. The Chinese increased only by 400,000 (1.5 percent), but the Malays increased by 1.5 million (2.7 percent). Our population is constantly on the increase, and according to the prevailing ratio, there will be a little over 5 million Chinese but more than 10 million Malays by the year 2000. This will be followed by another delineation of electoral districts. Add to this the legalized immigration of more than 300,000 Indonesian workers as stipulated in the Malaysia-Indonesian Workers Agreement, and we can imagine the dismal future of the Chinese' political rights and interests.

Tee Ann Chuan also criticized the unfair redistricting of constituencies of 1984, which ruins the "one man, one vote" spirit of the democratic system.

On the basis of the aforementioned worries, he solemnly pointed out that the younger generation must clearly understand the political situation in order to seek a solution to the problems for the sake of the country and people. He said that the MYSM has plunged itself into active participation in the affairs of state. "During the past 2 years, we were in the preparatory stage, but beginning in 1985 we will really go after our objective of active participation in national affairs. We want to see the emergence of a different Chinese society on Malaysian soil," he concluded.

TAN KOON SWAN DENIES CHARGES ABOUT POLITICIZATION OF MPH B

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 25 Jun 84 p 25

[Excerpts] Tan Koon Swan, managing director of the Multi-Purpose Holdings Berhad [MPHB], stated that this conglomerate was born with a political mission. At that time, it was established under the auspices of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA] and so it is impossible to avert a political connection. But we should not drag the MPH B into the MCA rift at the present time.

As regards the criticism of money politics, Mr Tan challenged that should anyone discover an MPH B voucher for political purposes, show it to him.

In an informal discussion with a roving MPH B inspection team at a Seremban hotel last night, Mr Tan vehemently refuted the four MCA ministers' idea of "separation of politics from commerce."

He deplored the MCA leaders' criticism purporting that the MPH B has deviated from its original objective by neglecting its specialization in economic matters and embroiling it into politics.

He said that the conglomerate is developing smoothly in all fields, including banking and finance, plantations and real estate and that it has a workforce of 20,000 including 2,000 people at its headquarters.

He added that the plantations have more than 300 young and able specialists who collectively form a most efficient organization. The MPH B has more experts in real estate business than any other developing commerce. Today, the entire conglomerate has a total of more than 1,000 experts. Its board of directors comprises lawyers and graduates of Nanyang and Taiwan universities. So, can we be accused of being short of expertise, he queried.

With regard to the accusation of politicization, Mr Tan stressed that the MPH B has a political mission. As soon as its work has been systematized and its experts properly deployed, the MPH B will be de-politicized. "We are nearing our goal now," he said.

Mr Tan explained that as the MPHE originally placed too much emphasis on politics, it found itself at a disadvantageous position. "For instance, there was quite a furor when we bought over the United Bank Malaysian Corporation [UMBC], Dunlop Estates and Guthrie."

Therefore, he said, we are prepared to turn the MPHB into an active business institution. After the retirement of Datuk Lee San Choon, we thought that it would be better if Datuk Lee would assume the MPHB chairmanship. This would have been a "de-politicization" move. Other board members felt the same way and avoided politics, too. But this work style was also censured.

Mr Tan stated that if and when we find the right candidates, we will be glad to withdraw, but we'll never deviate from or lose sight of our original objectives.

He stressed that in the present circumstances, the Chinese must race against time and strive for our common goal through collective strength and self-reliance, so that we can face the challenges of the future.

After explaining the issuance of MPHB dividends and additional shares, Mr Tan disclosed two prospective plans. First, MPHB's plan of creating an "inner city" in Kuala Lumpur, which will be called "MPHB Center." This would be an ideal for the MPHB's board of directors, and I hope to see this great aspiration realized within my lifetime. This plan will include the construction of four 48-story buildings plus connecting hotels, apartments and a 1/3-mile-long shopping center along the main street.

The other plan is to build a training center next to the Bangi National University to cultivate all kinds of specialists, not only for the MPHB but also to render service to ethnic-Chinese society.

Furthermore, the MPHB International Trading Company has a series of plans to stimulate the growth of small- and medium-sized enterprises.

Datuk Oon Seng Lee, leader of the MPHB inspection team, said in a speech that the MPHB has become the largest company of the Chinese people throughout Asia. Its total paid-up capital has reached M\$5 billion, and it controls nine public companies--six in Malaysia, and one each in London, Hong Kong and Singapore. At the same time, the MPHB has become an organization that has aroused Chinese society.

Earlier, in his welcoming speech, the chairman of the meeting, Wee Soo Hua, said that the MPHB and its shareholders all have a special mission to lead business circles, so that the conglomerate will grow steadily with the passage of time. He said he does not want to see all Chinese-owned public companies taken over by others. "We must look after each other's welfare to avert the loss of controlling power. We must devise plans and strategies for our long-range survival," he asserted.

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CSO: 4205/68

TAN KOON SWAN CRITICIZES STAR, UTUSAN MELAYU

Salangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 26 Jun 84 p 25

[Text] Tan Koon Swan, JP, Criticized the STAR and the UTUSAN MELAYU for having been utilized as tools to attack the Multi-Purpose Holdings Berhad [MPHB]. The two newspapers had reported that if leaders of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA] think that politics should not be commercialized, this party should first sell its STAR and UTUSAN MALAYU shares.

Mr Tan countered that if the MPHB had not made money in the first place, how could the MCA have bought those newspaper shares?

He explained that the Wisma MCA [MCA House] was built to generate funds to support the party. [At the time, if we did not have some spare money, how could the MCA control UTUSAN MELAYU and STAR? Without money, how could the MCA grow strong?"

Tan Koon Swan was speaking at an informal discussion with a roving group of MPHB board members in Seremban last night, during which he refuted criticisms by four MCA ministers. The MPHB should not become the scapegoat in the MCA rift," he said.

He added that MPHB cannot hold meetings at the Wisma MCA. To save money, the MPHB has no conference room for its board members and is compelled to go somewhere for a board meeting, yet it is being criticized by the papers.

Mr Tan hoped that the four MCA ministers would refrain from criticizing MPBH on grounds of "politicization of MPBH," "money politics," "distraction of issues," etc. He added that if the ministers led the party sagaciously, nobody would come out to challenge their leadership at the party's election.

He stressed that as this issue concerns MPHB's 300,000-plus members and shareholders, and affects more than 1.5 million households or one-third of the ethnic-Chinese population, we have the obligation to analyze and clarify the whole matter.

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CSO: 4205/68

MICHAEL CHEN'S POSSIBLE CHALLENGE TO LIM KENG YAIK ANALYZED

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 7 Jul 84 p 3

[Article by staff reporter Xu Chun [1776 2504]]

[Text] Is Datuk Michael Chen Wing Sum willing to lie low forever after he has reinforced the Malaysian People's Movement [GERAKAN Raykat Malaysia]?

Indications are that Michael Chen will probably challenge Datuk Lim Keng Yaik at GERAKAN's general assembly scheduled for the end of September this year. If he does, it will be an irony to Datuk Lim. For it was Datuk Lim who, disregarding the dissuasion of his many friends in 1981, energetically enticed Michael Chen to join the GERAKAN. Thus, he "courted calamity for himself by rearing a tiger."

At that time, after losing his battle against Datuk Lee San Choon for top leadership of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA], Michael Chen ignominiously quit the party. Not only was he jockeyed out of MCA's leadership echelon, but also lost his position in the cabinet. He found himself facing a bleak political future.

Under such circumstances, many people were suspicious about Michael Chen's joining the GERAKAN, on the grounds that he was hoping to stage a political comeback through this party, especially to retrieve his cabinet post.

At present, Michael Chen is the director of the Harbor Bureau at Port Swettenham, working under MCA's Tan Sri Chong Hon Nyan, minister of transport. This is definitely not Michael Chen's aspiration.

Too many politicians aspire to become a cabinet minister. The GERAKAN is allotted one seat only, which is held by its deputy president, Datuk Paul Leong Khee Seong. Michael Chen is one of the vice chairmen in the party. Unless he can grab a higher position, there is no way for him to "revive an old dream."

At the 1980 general assembly of the GERAKAN party in Port Dickson, Datuk Paul Leong competed against his personal friend Datuk Lim Keng Yaik for the party's presidency. Although Datuk Paul Leong lost the battle, he was not relegated to limbo. In fact, he was nominated by Datuk Lim to campaign for the party's

deputy presidency, and subsequently recommended to sit in the cabinet as GERAKAN's representative.

Michael Chen is fully aware of this fact. At the same time, he knows that even if he can defeat Datuk Paul Leong, it does not necessarily mean that he will become a cabinet minister, because the power is held in the hands of GERAKAN's president. Furthermore, according to the statutes of the party, assuming that Datuk Paul Leong is defeated in a political contest, he can still campaign for the party's vice chairmanship, a position he can easily get on the basis of his personal reputation.

Consequently, there is only one choice for Michael Chen to wrest back a cabinet seat: struggle and fight for the GERAKAN's presidency.

GERAKAN's regional elections are almost completed now. This party has three factions, led by Datuk Lim Keng Yaik, Datuk Michael Chen Wing Sum and Goh Cheng Teik, respectively. Their strengths and weaknesses are more or less known to the public.

Shortly after he joined GERAKAN, Michael Chen was appointed as a vice chairman of the party, member of its central working committee and director of its planning and organization bureau, charged with expanding and consolidating the party's organization, as well as recruiting new members. He did a commendable job by increasing GERAKAN's membership from 15,000 in 1981 to 140,000 today which, indirectly, has broadened his support base.

However, judging by the results of GERAKAN's regional elections, Michael Chen would not be able to shake Datuk Lim's foundations unless he could win the cooperation of Goh Cheng Teik.

The infighting at GERAKAN is a subtle one. Fine cooperation at its top leadership does not necessarily mean that its rank and file can cooperate with one another harmoniously. Michael Chen and Goh Cheng Teik have a fine relationship, but in certain regions, such as Kedah and Malacca, their respective followers often do not see things eye to eye. Therefore, it is doubtful whether the two factions can join forces.

Another unfavorable factor to Michael Chen is a rumor that he is returning to the fold of the MCA. This is quite a possibility, in view of the fact that his erstwhile opponent, Datuk Lee San Choon, has withdrawn from politics and that MCA's current acting president, Datuk Neo Yee Pan, is in dire need of backing. Such rumor is bound to affect GERAKAN's membership.

On the whole, there are numerous advantages but no harm for Datuk Michael Chen to challenge Datuk Lim Keng Yaik. If he loses the fight, he can still be nominated on the spot as a candidate for the deputy president or vice chairman. At the same time, there is no problem for him to retain his present position in the party.

In short, Michael Chen is apparently well prepared to "fight his way out the encirclement" again at the GERAKAN.

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CSO: 4205/70

ABANDONMENT OF UMBC BY MPHB DISCUSSED

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 10 Jul 84 p 2

[Commentary: "MPHB Abandons UMBC"]

[Text] A few days ago, Tan Koon Swan, JP, managing director of the Multi-Purpose Holdings Berhad [MPHB], formally announced that the conglomerate will sell 40.68 percent of United Malaysian Banking Corporation's [UMBC] shares in its possession to two bumiputra companies in exchange for the 51 percent controlling rights to the Malaysian French Bank Berhad [MFBB].

As director of the MPHB and his other principal business venture, the Supreme Corporation Berhad, it has been Tan's work style to act first and talk later. The takeover of the MFBB was originally negotiated underground, but unfortunately the story was prominently disclosed by a Malay and an English newspaper here, which caused wide attention among the public.

In such a situation, the management of MPHB could do nothing but to hold a news conference and openly announced their plan to abandon the UMBC and buy over the MFBB. However, they did not announce the details of their plan.

As a matter of fact, the disclosure by the newspapers was disadvantageous to MPHB, because the purchase plan was merely an agreement reached between buyers and sellers, which still requires the approval of the Ministry of Finance. A premature disclosure would place the MPHB in a predicament, because it might be subjected to political pressure from various quarters, as was the case when it bought UMBC shares a few years ago.

Four years ago, the MPHB wanted to buy 51 percent controlling rights to the UMBC from the hands of the late industrialist Teo Beng Thiam in order to attain the ideal objective of owning a commercial bank. Subsequently, due to some political pressure, the MPHB was able to acquire only 40.68 percent equity of the said bank, while the other 40.68 percent shares were controlled by the bumiputras. Consequently, the MPHB lost the controlling rights to the UMBC.

Initially, the MPHB proposed to sell all its UMBC shares to its subsidiary, Multi-Purpose Bersatu, for development of its banking activities. However,

this proposal failed to gain approval by the National Capitalization Commission and the Central Bank. As an alternative, therefore, the MPHB now plans to buy over the MFBB.

One of the conditions for the MPHB to take over the MFBB is through an exchange of shares. On the one hand, the MPHB transfers 40.68 percent of UMBC shares in its possession to two bumiputra-owned companies, while on the other hand the same companies relinquish 51 percent shares of MFBB in their possession and additionally pay M\$132 million in cash to the MPHB. According to report, the names of the two bumiputra companies are Da'an [phonetic] and Dhani [phonetic].

Apparently MPHB's way of doing business has been censured by the masses of Chinese community, because the UMBC was founded by the Chinese. Now that the majority of the shares of this bank have changed hands this is regarded as a violation of the aspiration of the late industrialist Datuk Teo Beng Thiam.

But the MPHB has worries of its own. From the business viewpoint, the conglomerate is correct in abandoning the UMBC, since it cannot gain control over the bank anyway. Then it can purchase some other bank.

As a business investment, the MPHB is not making an error when it relinquishes the UMBC in exchange for the MFBB. However, this Malaysian French bank is a small financial institution which will require 8 to 10 years to develop. Whether it can grow into a sound, large-scale bank remains to be seen.

At any rate, the MPHB has issued a guarantee that no matter how the MFBB will be reorganized, it will not affect MPHB's controlling rights over it. This is also one of the conditions for the purchase of the MFBB by the MPHB.

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CSO: 4205/70

RESHUFFLED CABINET VIEWED

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 16 Jul 84 p 2

[Commentary]

[Text] The new cabinet formation was announced by Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir on 14 July. Three incumbent ministers and two deputy ministers were reluctantly dropped; seven ministers and six deputy ministers were reshuffled in their positions; two deputy ministers were promoted to become full ministers; a new figure was appointed minister and four others as deputy ministers; two incumbent vice ministers were reassigned somewhere, while a new man was appointed vice minister.

Judging by the namelist of the new cabinet, this represents the second major cabinet reshuffle since the 1982 parliamentary elections. From this reorganization, we can also see that Prime Minister Dr Mahathir is a political thinker who attaches much importance to old colleagues and likes to promote new persons to important positions.

Why was it that the prime minister appointed Daim Zainuddin as the new minister of finance? On the basis of seniority at the United Malays National Organization [UMNO] or expertise in economics, there are many other persons more qualified than Daim Zainuddin.

Outsiders guessed that the appointment of Daim Zainuddin serves a two-fold purpose: On the one hand, the prime minister wants all UMNO members to know that even ordinary members have opportunities galore to be recommended and promoted to become cabinet ministers, if they have talent and ability. On the other hand, the prime minister thinks that the injection of new blood into the finance ministry will enable it to function more appropriately and efficiently.

The names of Tan Sri Ghazali, Datuk Abdul Manan, Datin Paduka Aishah Ghani, Datu' Suhaimi and Datuk Dr Nik Hussein were absent from the new cabinet list, an indication that their respective influence within the party is on the wane. As a matter of fact, they were taken lightly by their followers at the latest election of the party.

For instance, Tan Sri Ghazali competed for a position in the UMNO top leadership in his capacity as an elder statesman, but he lost. Datin Paduka Aishah Ghani voluntarily relinquished the leadership of UMNO's Women Wing. Twice Datuk Suhaimi fought for the leadership of UMNO's Youth Wing, and twice he was beaten by Anwar Ibrahim.

Tengku Razaleigh's stay or departure in the reorganized cabinet was an issue that attracted public attention. Many people thought that after having been defeated twice in his challenge against Musa Hitam, he would have been thrown out of the cabinet altogether. Yet, the fact is not so. Although this time around he lost his finance minister portfolio, Razaleigh has been reassigned as minister of trade and industry. And both ministries of finance and trade and industry are important departments of the government.

Why is it that Tengku Razaleigh can remain in the cabinet? This is a point the public want to know. In fact, the reason is quite simple: Tengku Razaleigh is a member of the royal family and he wields powerful influence in Kelantan State. His absence from the cabinet could affect Prime Minister Dr Mahathir's policy of balance of political power.

However, Tengku Razaleigh has voluntarily given up his position as chairman of UMNO's Kelantan Regional Committee in favor of the current chief minister of the Kelantan State. Furthermore, his position as UMNO's general treasurer has been taken over by the new finance minister. Therefore, Razaleigh does not have a thing to his name within the party.

Datuk Abdullah Badawi, whom the prime minister always thinks highly of, not only stays as chairman of UMNO's Penang Regional Committee, but has also been promoted to become the new minister of education. He is considered the best successor to the prime minister.

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CSO: 4205/71

EDITORIAL STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF CABINET RESHUFFLE

Salangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 16 Jul 84 p 20

[Editorial: "The Highly Significant Cabinet Reshuffle"]

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir announced a reshuffle of his cabinet on 14 July. A new personality, Daim Zainuddin, was appointed minister of finance; Anwar Ibrahim was transferred to become minister of agriculture; Tengku Razaleigh was transferred as minister of trade and industry; and the ministers and deputy ministers of other departments changed hands, too. Judging by this new formation, the cabinet reshuffle carries great significance and will produce a strong impact on the government's New Economic Policy [NEP].

This cabinet reshuffle not only reflects the outcome of the election of top leadership of the United Malays National Organization [UMNO] last May, but also amply indicates the prime minister's success in cultivating capable successors to lead the party.

We believe that the central point of the cabinet reshuffle lies in the appointment of Daim Zainuddin and the transfer of Anwar Ibrahim. The important roles they will play will be reflected in the implementation of the government's NEP.

Prime Minister Dr Mahathir has stressed that we must learn from the East for the privatization plan and the "Malaysia, Inc" concept to achieve success. He said: "We are meeting structural difficulties in the Malaysian economy, including the degree of government participation in the economy, the growingly serious discrepancy between revenues and expenditures, and the lack of driving force in private investment. These structural difficulties have also emerged in agriculture and the manufacturing industry. These weaknesses must be corrected by relatively new methods and strategies.

Daim Zainuddin is a professional. Like the preceding finance minister, he was directly appointed to his present post from his membership in Parliament. He has been vigorously engaged in commercial activities. Anwar Ibrahim, on the other hand, is UMNO's most prospective leader of the coming generation.

It appears that by giving them cabinet responsibilities, Prime Minister Dr Mahathir hopes that Daim Zainuddin and Anwar Ibrahim will overcome the structural difficulties of our economy on the strength of their ability, drive and new workstyle, so that our NEP will achieve its ultimate, comprehensive success.

Before the announcement of the cabinet reshuffle, the "center man of public attention," Tengku Razaleigh, was transferred to head the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Explaining away his transfer, the prime minister told reporters that Tengku Razaleigh has held the post of finance minister for 8 long years, that other departments need his services, and that his shift was not to be misconstrued as a demotion or punishment. Nevertheless, the fact that the Tengku was dropped from the chairmanship of UMNO's Kelantan Regional Committee and that he no longer holds a position in UMNO's top leadership, reflects the erosion of his influence within the party. This is easily understandable.

From the cabinet reshuffle, we know that the posts of minister of education and minister of culture, youth and sports are held by Datuk Abdullah Badawi and Datuk Dr Sulaiman. We feel that Chinese organizations throughout the country should pay full attention to these changes and establish rapport with the ministers concerned to ensure that the basic aspirations of Chinese society toward the nation's culture and education will not be adversely affected.

One noteworthy thing is that those politicians who were defeated in UMNO's top leadership election last May were subsequently still appointed cabinet ministers or to other important posts. This not only signifies the magnanimity of UMNO's leadership, but also the party's political maturity.

With the emergence of UMNO's new personalities, and at a time when the quality of our cabinet is being continuously enhanced, we hope that Chinese political parties and business organizations across the nation will strengthen their organization and unity, make an in-depth study of major policy problems and synchronize our efforts with the NEP in an effective and opportune way, so that the ethnic-Chinese citizens will jointly share the benefits of our national development with our friendly nationalities.

9300

CSO: 4205/71

LIM KENG YAIK OUTLINES NEW NATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 17 Jul 84 p 2

[Text] Datuk Dr Lim Keng Yaik, president of the Malaysian People's Movement [GERAKAN], pointed out that his party has called for the formulation of a new "National Economic Policy." This new policy, he explained, should emphasize that the nation's wealth should be distributed on the basis of real economic needs, but not on race.

Datuk Lim indicated that under this policy, the government should strive for an economic adjustment between the rich and the poor, but not among the same class of people. The reason is that the overwhelming majority of the bumiputras are still poor, and it is they who should benefit by this policy.

We are convinced, he said, that this formula for economic distribution, which is aimed at the eradication of poverty regardless of race, will also result in a restructure of our society. This will serve as a comparatively reasonable way to establish a fair and just society without racial overtones, as is the case under the present New Economic Policy [NEP].

Dr Lim Keng Yaik made these remarks while speaking at a political forum on "The Political Situation Circa 1990" organized by the Negeri Sembilan State GERAKAN Youth Wing this afternoon.

Excerpts from his speech follow:

"The excessive implementation of the NEP's certain provisions has caused a drift away among non-Malays, but the success or failure of the NEP depends on the participation of non-bumiputras. If the government cannot build up non-bumiputras' trust, the Fourth Malaysia Plan and its subsequent economic program are likely to be affected. At present, the non-bumiputras are frightened, because they are not given opportunities to take part in government development plans, even though they are willing to do so. A good case in point involves the privatization of public enterprises. We cannot help asking: how many non-bumiputras are taking part in the program of privatization of public enterprises? We hope that the steadily crumbling trust of the non-bumiputras can be

rebuilt soon. The GERAKAN has always thought that the government should give a speedy, positive reaction to public opinion, so that the Malaysian people can vigorously participate in and develop national plans to promote prosperity for all."

"The Islamization of government administration and the import of Indonesian laborers are also causing concern among non-bumiputras. The bureaucrats are overzealous in implementing government policies and negligent in giving explanations to the public. This has worsened the already bad situation. In this connection, it is GERAKAN's task to explain government policies to the people, particularly the non-bumiputras, and to urge the government to readjust the implementation of certain bad points of the policies, in order to minimize the fright and restlessness of the non-bumiputras."

"When, in 1971, the State Consultative Council proposed the target of 30 percent equity for bumiputras, it clearly set a limit of 20 years, and that the government would energetically support the bumiputras to take part in economic development during this period. It was also clearly stated that after the deadline is passed, the bumiputras must carry on through their own efforts and compete with other nationalities. Furthermore, it was promulgated that after the year 1990, the government shall terminate giving similar encouragements to the bumiputras. Those people who are shouting at the top of their lungs for an extension of the NEP after 1990 should read the agreement of the past and understand that the spirit of the said agreement is to wipe out all fears and dissatisfaction of all nationalities, particularly the non-bumiputras. The non-Malays feel that they are being discriminated against in the NEP implementation, totally relegated aside. Under such environment, there is no way to attain national unity."

"The restructuring of our society has achieved considerable success. In many fields, such as plantation, mining and banking, the bumiputras not only have passed the 30 percent equity mark, but also controlled these industries. Consequently, the government should pay more attention to raising the standards of living of the poor and taking measures for their welfare, including Malays and non-Malays," Dr Lim Keng Yaik concluded.

9300

CSO: 4205/72

DAP PREPARES TO STAGE COMEBACK

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 17 Jul 84 p 2

[Commentary: "Democratic Action Party Prepares To Make a Comeback"]

[Text] Judging by the recent actions of secretary general Lim Kit Siang and other leaders for the Democratic Action Party [DAP], the said party is vigorously launching a propaganda campaign to be prepared for the upcoming and probably speeded-up general election.

As a matter of fact, in early June Lim Kit Siang already issued a directive calling on all members of the party to make an overall preparation to face the forthcoming national election.

Such preparation is deemed necessary, because the upcoming election will be of great importance to the party which is being confronted with the most difficult test since its founding.

At the April 1982 general election, Datuk Lee San Choon led his party, the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA], to launch a so-called "major breakthrough" movement, which resulted in the ignominious defeat of the DAP. Even Lim Kit Siang's seat at the state assembly was difficult to retain.

At that time, DAP won only 6 seats in Parliament and 12 seats in state assemblies. Among the six parliamentary seats, three represented the Federal Territory, two represented Penang and one Malacca. The party collected 748,209 votes in total, or 20.3 percent of the entire ballot cast.

In point of fact, the DAP's defeat at that general election was attributable to two reasons: the impact by MCA's "major breakthrough" movement and the effect of a "purge" within its own party.

During the 1978 general election, the MCA suffered a major defeat, but thereafter its leadership rebuilt a new public image which enjoyed the support of the Chinese public. At the same time, Chinese voters were specifically asked by the MCA to make a clear-cut choice at the 1982 general election: either vote MCA or DAP.

The second factor for DAP's defeat was that it had launched two internal purges prior to the general election, which seriously hurt the party's vitality. Moreover, the party failed to bring up any important issue which could wrest many votes from the electorate.

The DAP has now learned its lesson and is reviewing its past mistakes with the view to getting better results at the next general election.

There is no indication whether the election date will be expedited. Anyway, if it is advanced, the DAP will definitely benefit from it.

Traditionally, DAP's main opponents are the candidates of MCA, whoever they may be. At the present time, the MCA is at war within itself, and there is no telling when this infighting will come to an end. Even if the internal squabble is successfully resolved, will the Chinese voters continue to support MCA as they did at the 1982 general election? This is a problem worth looking into. The prevailing circumstances are advantageous to the DAP.

The DAP is an opposition party, and as such it can cunningly exploit certain unfavorable issues to its advantage and thereby attains its vote-getting objective.

It is certain that the MCA's infighting will become a target for attack by the DAP. Other problems to be aired by this party will include the nation's economy, the Malaysia-Indonesian Workers Agreement and the "San Pao Shan Incident." In addition, the Malaysian People's Movement [GERAKAN] is also embroiled in an internal feud, and this will work to the advantage of the DAP in the upcoming general election, especially in the Penang region where GERAKAN's influence has suffered a disastrous decline.

9300

CSO: 4205/72

LIM KIT SIANG URGES TRIAL OF ARRESTED PAS LEADERS

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 13 Jul 84 p 9

[Text] In a statement issued today, Lim Kit Siang, secretary general of the Democratic Action Party [DAP], said that the arrest of three youth leaders of the Islamic Party [PAS] by invoking the Internal Security Act marks a new phase of the 2-M [Mahathir and Musa] government.

The DAP urged the government to bring the three PAS leaders to court for an open trial, in order to prove that its charges against them were devoid of political motives or aims.

Mr Lim's statement read in part as follows:

"In December 1982, Parliament amended the Penal Code and its procedures with the view to dealing with those elements who utilized religion to incite disgruntled and infuriated religious fanatics against the government. If the government's charges against these three PAS leaders are true, it has the right to arraign them before the court."

"Datuk Musa Hitam, minister of home affairs, has said that the government intends to publish a White Paper concerning the activities of the said PAS leaders, which will be presented before Parliament if it can be completed in time."

"Parliament will be in session from 16 to 27 July. Of course, there will be plenty of time to bring up the 'White Paper,' unless the authorities need more time to fabricate charges against these three persons."

"If the government fails to present the White Book to Parliament, this proves that the authorities have invoked the Internal Security Act on the basis of incomplete facts."

"Merely bringing up the White Book before Parliament will serve no purpose, unless we allot ample time for debates over its contents. I therefore request Datuk Musa Hitam to guarantee that Parliament members be given opportunities to hold debates about the White Paper."

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CSO: 4205/71

PRIVATIZATION OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES DISCUSSED

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 4 Jul 84 p 22

[Editorial]

[Text] More than a year has passed since the concept of privatization of public enterprises was brought up. However, as the government has not announced the overall plan along with its detailed rules and regulations, it is still difficult to know which enterprises are to be transferred to the private sector or what will be the pattern of private management.

Judging by the partial plans already implemented or still under consideration, we can see that private ownership will take the following forms:

1. Complete transfer of public enterprises to private ownership and management, such as the three-layered Katong-Kuching Turnpike. According to an announcement made by Datuk Samy Vellu, minister of works and utilities, the design, construction, management and collection of tolls of this key road will be the responsibility of the contracting company.
2. The government will participate in certain amount of shares, such as the new east-west trunk line of the Bureau of Railways. This railway line will need M\$1.4 million [sic] to build, and the government will take a 10 to 15 percent interest in it. As to aviation industry, its shares will be equally subscribed by private development companies, Malaysian Airlines System and the government.
3. At first, the government will set up a certain company to be in charge of management of some endeavor, then its shares will be gradually sold to private industrial circles and public figures, such as the plan for the privatization of telecommunication industry, which has been divulged by Mr Ou Siao Siang, deputy minister (administration) of the Ministry of Energy, Telecommunications and Posts.
4. Let the public rent public equipment and facilities, according to a plan being drawn up by the Ministry of Health. According to Yeoh Poh San, deputy minister (administration) of the said ministry, as soon as this plan is put into practice, a private medical doctor need only to pay a one-time deposit and fees to borrow a diagnostic room, beds, surgery hall, special

nursing and gynocological-obstetrical room and laboratorium from a government hospital.

Since its promotion, the privatization plan has achieved some results and also produced certain defects.

Among the substantial results may be mentioned the privatization of TV Channel 3, which has won thunderous praise from the viewers who now think that the new program is enriching their entertainment life. The privatization of development projects for Bangsa Maju New Village has reportedly saved the government a M\$500 million expenditure.

However, after management of the Petaling Jaya parking lot was handed over to a private company, many grudges and complaints have been lodged by the public against the parking lot attendants concerning the abused issuance of parking tickets. Also, the collection of garbage in this region leaves much to be desired, because the workers of the private company concerned are not given effective instructions by the said company, according to state assemblyman Song Tiao Heong.

We hope the authorities concerned will face these defects squarely and take speedy and effective measures. As Datuk Ramon of the Finance Ministry has remarked, a plan may look good on paper, but some problems tend to crop up in the process of implementing it. For instance, he said, the road may look good as you leave home for work in the morning, and then you discover that the streets are dotted with potholes due to heavy rains or that a traffic jam occurs somewhere because of a special event. The situation today may be likened to the discovery of potholes but no traffic snarls yet. The logical thing to do is to repair the road as early as possible.

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CSO: 4205/69

TAN TIONG HONG PLEDGES CONTINUED CONTACTS WITH CHINESE BUSINESSMEN

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 16 Jul 84 p 1

[Text] Dr Tan Tiong Hong, newly-appointed deputy minister of finance, said last night that he would try his best to arrange a dialogue with the Chinese, in order to understand their reactions to government policies.

He told reporters in Kuala Lumpur: "I am aware that after I become deputy minister of finance, it will not be easy for the Chinese people to meet with me, so I will arrange to contact them and attend their discussions. Through these meetings, I hope to be able to understand their feelings toward any possible unfair implementation of government policies and to make them appreciate our policies."

Dr Tan assured the Chinese that "as the new deputy minister of finance, I would serve them to the best of my ability, because I am holding a government post as a representative of the Chinese people. However, I have just been assigned to the Ministry of Finance, and I need some time to get an in-depth understanding of problems being faced by the Chinese."

Talking about the post of deputy minister of education which he just relinquished, Dr Tan expressed his thanks to the Federation of School Teachers and Trustees, boards of trustees of various schools, principals, teachers and parents for their wholehearted cooperation in the past.

He said: "Without their help and support, I would not have been able to achieve any significant result."

He pledged that he would continue to pay close attention to education problems. "The fact that I am no longer deputy minister of education does not mean that I'm no longer concerned with education problems."

In his capacity as chairman of the Committee for Educational foundation of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA], Dr Tan said that he would win over Chinese business circles to take an active part in the educational foundation. "I will talk this problem over with Datuk Neo Yee Pan, strive for participation of private circles and, through this foundation, help solve the problems being faced by Chinese schools."

He said that for the time being he will be helping the newly-appointed deputy minister of education, Datin Paduka Rosemary Chong, to carry on with her duties.

COMMENTARY VIEWS NEW AGRICULTURAL POLICY

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 24 Jun 84 p 20

[Commentary]

[Text] Agriculture is one of our country's major production enterprises, occupying 30 to 45 percent of the total output volume. Its position is extremely important. According to statistics, 2 million people of our population rely on agriculture for their livelihood and they promote agricultural development. It is evident that they are helping to wipe out poverty and increase our national revenue.

Agriculture is an important link in a country's economic system. Economic planners must accurately promote a policy aimed at expanding land areas, improving agricultural productivity and enabling all nationalities to enjoy large-scale land development. This new agricultural policy must be dovetailed with new concepts, new ideas and new strategies, so that the country will fully benefit from it and the whole people will wholeheartedly support it. Only thus can a firm and strong agricultural economy be established.

The Midterm Review Report of the Fourth Malaysia Plan already formally brought up a new agricultural policy by the effective use of agricultural resources for contribution to the whole national economy. No doubt, this merits attention.

Under this new agricultural policy, concrete measures to be carried out include the following: 1) concentration of villages, so they can be urbanized; 2) establishment of large-scale commercialized farms through the cooperative system; 3) promotion of village development plans, especially through training, education and home industry, to improve the productivity of village production centers; 4) intensification of optimum harvests from arable fields and development of their highest potentials as well as marketing of our produce in domestic and foreign markets; 5) continuation of promotion of large-scale land development and regional development plans as the main force for agricultural development; and 6) encouragement of the private sector's participation in agricultural development with the view to improving the administrative efficiency and productivity in this field.

It is definite that the new agricultural policy, especially and continued expansion of new farmland and the encouragement of participation by private enterprises, will bring about a new impetus to agriculture, which will be most significant for the enhancement of the living standards of the rural inhabitants, particularly the Malays.

According to official statistics, between 1971 and 1980 a total of 804,731 hectares of land were developed by the government through the Federal Land Development Authority [FELDA], Federal Land Consolidation and Rehabilitation Authority [FELCRA], Rubber Industry Smallholders Development Authority [RISDA], regional development bureaus, state development bureaus and other corporate bodies. However, land developed by private enterprises during the same period measured 61,327 hectares only. During the Fourth Malaysia Plan, it is planned to open up 543,461 hectares of land, and 303,200 hectares of new land will be completely developed. Of the figures, the FELDA alone has exploited 104,200 hectares and resettled 15,800 overwhelmingly-Malay households. In addition, the government has combined and redeveloped large tracts of barren land and paddy fields through the FELCRA, thus putting the land to good use.

It must be pointed out that the government effort in land development and utilization is a most important measure to the development of our agricultural economy, the provision of job opportunities and the improvement of the living standards of the lower classes. A fly in the ointment is that practically all the developed and rehabilitated land were conducted by corporate bodies, with only the bumiputras getting the largest benefit from the whole thing. The private sector, and especially the non-bumiputras, were not given ample opportunities to take part in this most significant land development plan and to jointly make contributions to our national economic development.

Coordinating the government's new agricultural policy with its privatization concept, it would be beneficial for the further development of the national economy if the authorities can allocate more virgin land to the private sector and non-bumiputras to develop it, especially for the planting of food crops, industrial raw materials and new agricultural produce for export. This way, we will reach the goal of "utilizing land to its fullest advantage" and "developing man to his fullest talents and skills." Furthermore, it will have a long-range benefit to the country and society, as well as the eradication of poverty, irrespective of race. It is believed that the authorities will face squarely and rectify this irregularities in land development in the interests of the national economy.

9300

CSO: 4205/68

LIM KIT SIANG ON COLLEGE EDUCATION, POPULATION INCREASE

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 26 Jun 84 p 12

[Text] Lim Kit Siang, secretary general of the Democratic Action Party [DAP], today called on the government to set a goal for the establishment of a university in every state by the year 1990. He also appealed for the founding of a university in Malacca now so our children may further their studies their without going abroad, thereby saving our foreign exchange.

He made these remarks at a 1984 Malacca state DAP general meeting.

Mr Lim said that according to the government's midterm report on the Fourth Malaysia Plan, Information Minister Datuk Adib Adam remarked that Malaysia's projected 70 million population will be the most important asset to the nation, and not its natural resources. The minister was quoted as saying that the people, particularly the Malays, need not worry about population increase, because problems like labor shortage and poverty ~~will~~ be solved.

Lim Kit Siang said that judging by the information minister's remark, the most populous country should be the richest nation on earth. But this is not true. For instance, India, Bangladesh and Indonesia are all existing in abject poverty.

Mr Lim said Datuk Adib Adam should realize that it is not population size which decides the greatness of a nation, but the quality of life of its people. "Before advocating an increase in population, the information minister and other National Front leaders should pay attention to the enhancement of standards of living of the Malaysian people," he added.

"The 2-M government has repeatedly called on the people to learn from the East, especially Japan, but has our government really learned any secrets why Japan has become such an economically powerful nation today? For example, there are 400 colleges and universities in Japan, with a student body totalling about 2 million. Japan's population is 10 times Malaysia's. At this ratio, we should have 40 colleges and universities with 200,000 students."

Lim Kit Siang continued: "The 2-M government is energetically developing Malaysia's international position, but we should feel ashamed that we still have to rely on foreign countries for the education of our future leaders.

"In 1984, 14 years after the execution of our New Economic Policy [NEP], more Malaysian students are furthering their advanced education overseas than those who have graduated from our own universities. If we still cannot rely on ourselves to develop the potentials of our people, how can we talk about increasing population as a means to solve our poverty problem? This would be upside-down logic," he said.

He pointed out that the recently-founded University of North Malaysia accepted its first freshmen students numbering 350, of whom 70 percent were bumiputra and 30 percent non-Malay. Here we can see that higher education opportunities for various nationalities are unequal and unjust.

He said that 50,000 Malaysian students are furthering their education in foreign countries, and our country loses M\$1 billion every year. In fact, this money can be utilized to set up a university on our own soil.

Lim Kit Siang continued that the reason behind DAP's appeal to the government to draw up a new policy on higher education is to minimize our reliance on foreign countries for the education of our progeny, to save foreign currency and to set a goal of one university in each Malaysian state by 1990. As Malacca has the longest history in Malaysia, it is fair that it should have a university of its own. I hope this suggestion will get the support of all quarters.

On the other hand, Mr Lim called on the government to review its policy of 70 million population which, in his opinion, is an incorrect fait accompli, because the authorities did not give the public opportunities to express their views.

As a matter of fact, Mr Lim Said, the National Front government had secretively tried to promote this 70 million population plan long before it issued its midterm review of the Fourth Malaysia Plan. At the time, the authorities revised the Family Planning regulations and transformed the Family Planning Bureau into two parts: National Population Bureau and Bureau of Family Development.

Only the DAP voiced its opinion on this matter in Parliament, demanding to know whether this transformation reflected a shift in policy from controlling to increasing population and expressing its concern over the 70 million population plan.

Mr Lim recalled that in the early 1970's, he once criticized in Parliament the "lion of UMNO," Datuk Syed Jaafar bin Hasan Albar, on the issue of population control. At the time, Datuk Jaafar

attacked the zealous activities on the Family Planning Bureau in the rural areas on the grounds that this would reduce the population of the Malays and jeopardize their political position and power.

Today, a high-ranking UMNO leader admitted in a seminar on population that political and religious leaders operating in the countryside often criticize and oppose family planning, because this would affect the Malays' voting power.

Lim Kit Siang continued that the attitude of Muslims toward family planning was reflected in an article entitled "Why Islam's Aim Needs the Birth of More Children" published in a certain newspaper on 3 January 1984. The article stated: "A Muslim family is not afraid of having many children, for this is the aim of Allah and Allah will take care of them."

He said that the article called on Muslims to increase their population to protect their political interests.

It now appears that the National Front government is giving in to political and religious pressures, abandoning its traditional family planning policy and striving to increase the country's population.

The new "70 million population" policy will have wide-ranging effects on political, economic, educational, social and cultural rights of the entire Malaysian people. Therefore, the DAP appealed to the government to review this policy before carrying it out.

He pointed out that the people also have the right to know whether the legalization of illegal Indonesian immigrants forms part of the 70 million population plan.

In reality, the presence of 300,000 Indonesian illegals in our country has already compelled us to pay a heavy price in matters of public health and security at the expense of certain impoverished Malaysians. Later on, we have to pay other prices when these illegal immigrants compete with us in education, job opportunities and housing, not to mention about disruption of public order.

Mr Lim posed a question: "Before legalizing the illegal Indonesian immigrants, did the government study these phenomena?"

9300

CSO: 4205/68

BREAKDOWN OF POPULATION BY RELIGION

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 4 Jul 84 p 1

[Text] There are 72,659 nonbelievers in Peninsular Malaysia, of whom 56,813 are Chinese.

According to the 1980 Census Report (Vol II), there are more male than female nonbelievers.

By race and sex, there are 31,521 Chinese male atheists and 25,292 Chinese female atheists.

A characteristic of religious belief is that within one same religion, there is little discrepancy in number between male and female believers, probably because most husbands and wives embrace the same religion.

Islam is the largest religion in Peninsular Malaysia, with a total of 6,106,105 followers of various nationalities. Most of them are of the Malay race, plus 7,428 among the Chinese and 58,539 among the Indian races.

Buddhism is the second largest religion in Peninsular Malaysia, with a total of 2,064,949 followers, of whom 2,025,766 are Chinese.

The third largest religion in Peninsular Malaysia is made up of traditional Chinese religions, including Taoism and Confucianism, with a total of 1,401,681 followers, most of whom are Chinese, number 1,399,454.

Strangely enough, according to the census some 456 non-Chinese including bumiputras (not necessarily of the Malay race), are believers in traditional Chinese religions, just as 1,451 Indians and 320 others are.

Peninsular Malaysia's fourth largest Malaysia is Hinduism, with a total of 915,446 followers. It is understandable that the overwhelming majority of them (909,912) are of Indian race. Some 4,154 Chinese embrace Hinduism.

Another major religion in Peninsular Malaysia is Christianity, embraced by 233,023 people, mostly Chinese, numbering 120,231. They are followed by the Indian Christians, totalling 82,061.

Tribal religions also exist in Peninsular Malaysia, embraced by 53,404 followers, mostly aborigines, numbering 44,317.

However, it is little known that 8,255 Chinese believe in tribal religions.

A total of 39,446 individuals in Peninsular Malaysia believe in other religions.

9300

CSO: 4205/69

ARMED FORCES TO FORM RELIGIOUS CORPS

BK140940 Hong Kong AFP in English 0734 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, 14 Sep (AFP)--A religious corps is being formed in the predominantly Moslem Malaysian Armed Forces amid growing concern over the activities of religious extremists.

While top military officers said that deviationist teachings had had minimal impact on uniformed personnel, Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamed yesterday spoke of a religious teacher who had incited soldiers to ignore combat orders.

Dr Mahathir said that the preacher had asserted that soldiers on operations against communist insurgents "were not really Islamic because they did not pray in the jungle."

Moslems make up 97 percent of the Malaysian Armed Services and senior officers said that the religious corps, besides boosting morale, would help ensure that religious extremism did not take root in the Army.

The chief of defence forces General Ghazali Seth, who chaired a meeting of religious teachers to discuss the corps establishment, said that no form of Moslem fanaticism had affected military units so far. But those intending to influence troops should stay away, he said, adding that it was dangerous to meddle in national security.

The announcement of the corps formation coincides with a stepped up government drive against religious extremism in this multi-racial country where Moslems make up a little more than half of the 15 million population.

The opposition fundamentalist Islamic Party, PAS, has denied government allegations that it is fomenting an Iranian-style revolt and trying to set up an administration led by mullahs (priests).

Dr Mahathir, who is also defence minister, warned military and government officers not to allow their support for the opposition to conflict with national security.

Those who did would not only be weakening the country but also "committing treason," he said.

The PAS campaign for support for an Islamic state in Malaysia is centred on four Malay belt states--Kelantan, Perlis, Trengganu and Kedah--from which Dr Mahathir's moderate United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) draws much of its support.

Dr Mahathir has dispatched Anwar Ibrahim, the fiery leader of UMNO's youth wing, into PAS country to challenge the opposition party's claims that UMNO leaders are infidels with scant regard for Islam.

UMNO leaders like Anwar say that their party has done more for Islam than PAS has or ever will and accuse PAS leaders of misinterpreting the Koran to score political points.

PAS leaders have denied the allegations and UMNO charges that their campaign is dividing the Malays and compromising Malay supremacy in Malaysian politics.

CSO: 4200/1062

BRIEFS

'TREASON' AMONG RELIGIOUS GROUPS--Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir has exposed the activities of certain groups which do not encourage troops to take part in jungle operations allegedly because they might neglect their routine religious worship. The prime minister has branded such activities as efforts to weaken the troops' morale. They also amount to a treason against the country. Should such efforts be successful, the communists will surely conquer the country. He said this when closing a 2-day seminar attended by senior army chaplains in Kuala Lumpur. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir also said it was high time an army chaplain corps was formed. An organized agency would then be established to deal with religious matters. Religious freedom in this country must be safeguarded. For this reason, army chaplains must inculcate an unyielding fighting spirit in the hearts of the armed forces personnel to defend the religion, nation, and country. Should the country fall to the communists, there would no longer be any religious freedom. He went on to expose the bad deeds of those who discredit armed forces personnel and discussed the role of army chaplains. [Text] [BK141025 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1230 GMT 13 Sep 84]

'POSITIVE ATTITUDE' ON HUMAN RIGHTS--Malaysia is happy with the positive attitude of international community on human rights in the country. Datuk Musa Hitam welcomed the attitude following a decision made by the UN Human Rights Commission at its conference last March. At the conference, the commission accorded respects to the Malaysian Government for having provided full cooperation in human rights issues. It also agreed to discontinue investigations on human rights in the country. The deputy prime minister said this after meeting two ICRC [International Committee of the Red Cross] representatives in the capital today. The chief representative, Mr (Jim de Copen), told Datuk Musa that the Red Cross is not a human rights organization. Instead, it emphasizes humanitarian matters. [Excerpt] [BK141004 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1230 GMT 13 Sep 84]

MILITARY WARNED ABOUT POLITICAL ACTIVITIES--The Defense Ministry will take drastic action against any military personnel found involved in political activities. A Defense Ministry spokesman said today that any military personnel found to be involved in political activities will be thoroughly investigated. Those who are found guilty will face appropriate penalties based on the Malaysian Armed Forces Act. Legal proceedings against those involved will be conducted by military courts. Presently, no military officials or members of the armed forces are reported to have been prosecuted under the offence. [Text] [BK141430 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay 1230 GMT 14 Sep 84]

SALE OF UMBC SHARES--Lim Kit Siang, secretary general of the Democratic Action Party [DAP], pointed out that Multi-Purpose Holdings Berhad's [MPHB] approval to sell 40 percent of the United Malayan Banking Corporation's [UMBC] shares to bumiputra businessmen will threaten the economic interest and position of Chinese banking circles. In a statement issued today, Lim said that when the MPHB bought UMBC shares in 1981, the purchase was strongly opposed by the Youth Wing of the United Malays National Organization [UMNO]. "At that time, leaders of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA] told Chinese organizations that purchasing UMBC shares was meant to safeguard the economic interest and position of Chinese banking," Mr Lim explained. He added that he does not know what kind of attitude is being adopted by MCA and MPHB leaders vis-a-vis UMBC's development. [Text] [Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 8 Jul 84 p 3] 9300

LIBERALIZED TRADE URGED--Developed countries have been urged to be more liberal with their trade policies to allow developing nations to restructure their economies. The call was made by the minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Datuk Khalil Ya'akob, at the closing of a seminar on financing for development in Kuala Lumpur. He says that liberalization of trade will enhance a process of international economic cooperation and ease the world financial crisis. At the same time, developing countries could increase their export capabilities; that would improve their debt situation. The minister points out that the present financial crisis is due to the inability of the debtor nations, most of whom are underdeveloped or developing, to settle their financial commitments with developed countries. Datuk Khalil suggests that developing countries should minimize or stop totally from borrowing for consumption purposes or uneconomic and low-priority investments. In this respect, international financial institutions such as the World Bank could play a role by discouraging such loans. [Text] [BK121714 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1330 GMT 12 Sep 84]

MAHATHIR TO VISIT ITALY--Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir's official visit to Italy, beginning on 24 September, is expected by Italian officials and industrialists in Kuala Lumpur to be a turning point in the otherwise low-key Italian-Malaysian economic and trade relations. Malaysian officials are also optimistic that the visit, the first by a Malaysian prime minister, will bring about a new trend in bilateral relations between the two countries. The [word indistinct] point of the visit is the exploration of economic and trade opportunities. His official programs include a call on President Sandro Petini on the first day of the visit, which coincidentally is the eve of the president's 88th birthday. This will be followed by a meeting between Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir and Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir is expected to brief his Italian counterpart on the political situation in Southeast Asia and Kampuchea. Italy supports the ASEAN stand on Kampuchea. The talks between the two prime ministers are also expected to touch on economic cooperation. [Text] [BK190948 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 19 Sep 84]

TOPICS FOR UN--Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed will highlight the Antarctica, free trade, and protectionism issues in the debate to the UN General Assembly in New York next month. The prime minister told newsmen this

after chairing the weekly cabinet meeting in Kuala Lumpur. He is scheduled to be in the United States from the 7th of next month. The UN General Assembly began its 3-month-long session yesterday. Referring to the proposed PAS-UMNO [Pan Malayan Islamic Party-United Malays National Organization] debate, Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir says UMNO will agree to debate on only one topic, the PAS accusation that UMNO members are kafirs [unbelievers]. The prime minister made it clear that UMNO will not accept the PAS proposal that the debate beyond [as heard] the accusation of kafir between PAS and UMNO. He sees no reason why other issues should be brought in, especially as UMNO had never made insinuation of PAS members being kafirs. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir, who is UMNO president, says he will make arrangements for live telecast of the proposed debate once he received the official notification from PAS agreeing to it. [Text] [BK191349 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 19 Sep 84]

TRAINEE FIGURES TO JAPAN--Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Khalil Yaakob says that more than 900 trainees, executives, and students have been sent to Japan for training and study under the Look East Policy. He said this when launching an orientation to the good-will visit program at [name indistinct] campus in Kuala Lumpur. Under this program, 3,750 youths from ASEAN countries will be sent to Japan for the next 5 years beginning this year. He said the first batch of 60 Malaysian youths left for Japan in May and the second group of 89 will be leaving on 14 September. [Summary] [BK130941 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 12 Sep 84]

CARS IMPORT BANNED--Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah said that the government has frozen the issuing of approved permit for the importation of cars. He also said that the government is controlling the import of reconditioned cars. He further said that when the Malaysian-made car, Proton Saga, comes into full production, only a certain range of foreign cars will be assembled in the country. [Summary] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 15 Sep 84]

JOINT EXERCISE WITH INDONESIA--A 5-day joint air exercise will be staged at the end of this month by the Indonesian and Malaysian air forces over areas of western Malaysia and western Indonesia. In the joint maneuvers, code-named "Elang Malindo-9," to be held from 25 to 29 September, the two sides will use supersonic jetfighter aircraft besides Hercules transports, (Falkner) troop ships, jet trainers, and helicopters. An Indonesian Air Force announcement in Jakarta said the exercise was aimed at testing proficiency in the use of the joint procedures established so far by the two countries and of setting up of coordinated air defense operations. [Text] [BK160835 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 16 Sep 84]

NEO ON MCA RIFT--Datuk Neo Yee Pan, acting president of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA] stressed that MCA's infighting can be easily solved if the Multi-Purpose Holdings Berhad [MPHB] abandons its political ambitions. He said if those MPHB office-holders are not after personal fame and fortune as their point of departure, the problem in the MCA rift can be solved. He pointed out that if they are willing to quit

the MCA in order to devote themselves to economic matters, everything will work out all right. Datuk Neo was speaking before a ceremonial meeting organized by the 10-year-old Women's Wing of the MCA and commemorating the 35th founding anniversary of the party in Kuala Lumpur. He also pointed out that although its very foundations have been shaken by the infighting, the MCA organization as a whole will not crumble. He said that a number of women leaders have tried to sabotage this gathering, but there are so many women present here--an indication that those women who harbor evil intentions have lost the support of the rank and file; they have been used as political stooges and they will not go far. [Text] [Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 25 Jun 84 p 2] 9300

DAP ELECTION PREPARATIONS--Dr Chen Man Hin, president of the Democratic Action Party [DAP], called on its rank and file to work hard in the coming 3 years, in preparation for a "life and death" battle at the next general election. He was speaking at the opening ceremony of the party's general assembly in Kuala Lumpur. He said all members must strive to turn the DAP into a strong, effective opposition party and to promote national unity. He admitted that the United Malays National Organization [UMNO] is indeed a powerful political party. However, he added, neither the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA] nor the Malaysian Indian Congress [MIC] possesses a decisive force. Consequently, the DAP ought to become a disciplined organization to prove to the people that this party deserves to act as their representative. He also urged the authorities to resolve national affairs openly for the sake of effectiveness. Among those problems is the "threat to the student racial class" which earlier was touched upon by the prime minister. [Text] [Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 16 Jul 84 p 2] 9300

CSO: 4205/71

HEALTH, SOCIAL WORKERS HIT NUCLEAR PLANT AS 'U.S. INTEREST'

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 3 Sep 84 pp 1, 2

[Article by Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text]

The controversial Batan nuclear power plant is not an ordinary case of a lopsided transaction, but a clear manifestation of expanding United States interest in the country. This was stressed during a symposium sponsored by the Medical Action Group (MAG) attended by various health and social workers the other day.

Delfin Ganapin, member of the Board of Directors of Nuclear Free Philippines, said the Export Import Bank (Eximbank), the major financier of the \$2 billion first Philippine Nuclear Power Plant (PNPP-1) in Morong, is not an ordinary international commercial bank.

Eximbank grants loans to influence nations to support the foreign policy of the United States, to secure strategic sources of raw materials and to aid in the overall economic development of the reci-

pient nations in order to promote sales of US goods and services which are usually rejected by their own people and other developed countries, Ganapin said.

He added that Eximbank grants soft or low-interest loans. Eximbank's loan to the National Power Corporation (NPC), the government agency that owns PNPP-1, has an interest rate of 8 per cent annually.

Dr. Franz Arcellana, an officer of the Health Alliance for Democracy (HEAD), said the Batan nuclear power plant makes the present dictatorship necessary. Quoting from an article in Mother Jones magazine, he said that "Nuclear power requires the type of arrangement between government and private capital known as state capitalism. The state must intervene with money or legal authority, or both, to create and maintain conditions favorable to long-term investment."

"It must greatly reduce its vulnerability to the orga-

nized public pressure that forces changes in government policy. It must make its deal not with politicians and governments that a capricious citizenry can vote in and out of power, but rather with permanent institutions of the state itself. The industry must shield itself from democracy."

Pastor Rustico Yumul of Batan supported Arcellana's observation with a report of increased militarization in Morong and Bagac.

Westinghouse scientists John Sokol and Sam Rod, meanwhile, belied the link between nuclear power and nuclear weapon. "It's like linking dynamite with gasoline," Rod said. He added that having a nuclear plant is the most difficult way of making nuclear weapons. India, he further said, made its first atomic bomb before it had a nuclear power reactor.

Rod stressed that as a scientist, he opposes the proliferation of nuclear weapons and nuclear war.

Furthermore, Rod said, it is a remote possibility that the highly radioactive plutonium in the nuclear

waste of the Bataan plant will be made into a bomb, as it would require a facility as big and much more expensive than PNPP-1.

Somebody in the audience, however, raised the fact that PNPP-1, being located between Subic Naval Base and Clark Air Base does not make the possibility remote.

Asked why Westinghouse, the supplier of PNPP-1, will not assume any responsibility in case of an accident due to operator's error when the 30 Filipino operators in PNPP-1 are Westinghouse-trained, Rod compared the situation to acquiring a driver's license and driving a car.

"In case of a road accident, you don't claim damages payment from the driving school where you learned your lessons, nor from the manufacturer of the car," he said.

"No one person can guarantee what another person will do," Rod said, adding that Westinghouse guarantees the equipment.

Sokol added that one of the lessons learned from the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident in 1979, was improved operator's training which the Filipino operators availed themselves of.

In the TMI accident, the operator turned off the water that cools the fuel core when it should have been opened.

Lawyer Mary Concepcion Bautista of the Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition (NFPC) explained that under the law, if there's an accident in the Bataan plant, the responsibility rests on NPC unless it can be established that the failure was due to the training of the operator, which is the responsibility of Westinghouse.

Dr Achilles del Callar, for his part, added that the insurance coverage of the plant is shouldered by CSIS, which means that the burden is solely on the Filipino people.

As this developed, human rights lawyer Joker Arroyo asked why the safety measures recommended by the Puno Commission which investigated the plant in 1979 was shouldered by NPC.

According to NPC, the safety upgrades amounted to \$150 million. Arroyo said he clearly remembers W. Simmons of Westinghouse pledging during the Puno Commission hearings that Westinghouse will shoulder the cost of installing the necessary additional safety measures.

Arroyo said further that he learned later that Westinghouse had terminated Simon's services.

CSO: 4200/1052

PC COLONEL LINKED TO ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF LABOR LEADER

Quezon City ANG PAHAGANG MALAYA in English 1 Sep 84 p 3

[Article by Edgar A. Cadagat]

[Text]

BACOLOD CITY — A retired military officer said to have vast landholdings in Negros Occidental is being linked to the attempted assassination of a labor leader here.

In a sworn statement to the police, Vicente Convite, president of the Commercial Agro-Industrial Labor Organization (CAILO), said the attempt to kill him last Aug. 15 had something to do with the labor disputes he has with Col. Treadio Tecson, owner of Astro Farms located in Barangay Ma-ao in Bago City.

Convite said that CAILO, his labor union, has filed five labor cases against Tecson for the alleged non-payment of the 13th month pay, underpayment of workers' wages, non-payment of social amelioration bonuses, holiday premium and service incentives, and the mass dismissal of more than 200 labor union members from the hacienda.

Convite said that the assassin who was in turn killed in a shootout with law enforcers last Aug. 15, was a bodyguard of Tecson.

He added that C2C Antonio Sayson was dismissed from the service three times, but was always reinstated upon the intercession of Tecson.

Sayson was killed after he and an unidentified companion tried to assassinate Convite in front of the latter's house in Burgos St. here. Sayson is said to belong to the 6th PC Provisional Co. stationed at the interior town of Isabela.

Sources told Malaya that Sayson is also responsible for the death of five other people including an overseer of the hacienda said to be "friendly" with the laborers, and three farm workers who were signatories to the complaint against Tecson.

Sayson was killed in a shootout with members of the Metro Bacolod Police's Special Police Action Team (SPAT) after the Bacolod City police received a report on Sayson's attempt on the life of Convite.

Convite had earlier told police probers here that Sayson and the unidentified companion confronted him in front of his house at Burgos St. here, slapped him twice and tried to shoot him with a .45 cal. pistol.

Convite claimed he was able to escape unhurt when Sayson's two shots missed him. He immediately reported the incident to the police.

Responding police officers found Sayson drinking with a companion at the Sum-ag public market, about 10 kilometers from the city proper.

When Maj. Luis Gador of the Bacolod City police confronted him, Sayson allegedly grabbed Gador and held him hostage.

Sayson fired at the SPAT members but missed them, giving the SPAT the opportunity to hit him in the head.

Gador, P/Lt. Rodrigo Ablanque, Carlito and Eufemia Prudenciano and Jocelyn Cerbatos were hurt in the shootout.

GENERAL FELIX ON AFP OPERATIONS, NPA TIMETABLE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 1 Sep 84 p 13

[Article by Antenor B. Parazo]

[Text] Echague, Isabela--Brig Gen Alexander Felix, commanding general of Regional Unified Command 2, said the current military operations in western Isabela and Nueva Vizcaya have upset the rebels' timetable for expansion in Regions 1 and 2.

The RUC 2 Chief disclosed this assessment of the results of the two operations at a command conference at his headquarters here.

The Isabela operations, Felix said, had broken up the links among rebel groups seeking control of vital food production areas that extend from Paracels in Mountain Province through Ifugua to western Isabela.

In the military drive in Bayombong and Villaverde in Nueva Vizcaya, the tieup between dissident elements in Nueva Vizcaya and Central Luzon had been cut off, he added.

This means he explained, that whatever plans the New People's Army (NPA) have for these areas have been destroyed.

The operations in western Isabela started barely three weeks ago. These are concentrated in the mountain areas of the towns of Olagan, Benito Soliven, and San Mariano.

Felix said that troopers destroyed three rebel camps and 23 huts in the Isabela campaign. They also captured seven NPA members and various documents which revealed rebel schemes for expansion in the areas.

More than 100 alleged NPA supporters were taken in for questioning but were released after brief investigations in line with the government policy of leniency to rebel supporters who are forced to aid the dissidents only out of fears, the general explained.

The conference was attended by Brig Gen Thomas Manlongat, Recon 2 commander; Col Manual Ribo, commander of the 5th brigade of the 1st division (army); Col Carlos Stampador, PAF chief in the region; Col Jose Lopez, RUC 2 deputy commander for administration; Col E. Felix, RUC 2 deputy commander for military operations; and members of RUC 2.

COLLANTES URGES UNITY, SELF RELIANCE AT BATANGAS KBL MEETING

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 2 Sep 84 p 9

[Article by Ernesto G. Hernandez]

[Text] Tanauan, Batangas, Sept 1—Mambabatas Pambansa Manuel Collantes has urged his provincemates to be self-reliant and resourceful in the face of the worsening economic crisis gripping the country.

At the same time, Collantes assured the people that the government has been doing its best to help improve the living condition of those in the rural areas through the setting up of more viable government-assisted livelihood projects and the construction of better bridges and farm-to-market roads to help the farmers.

Speaking during a meeting of KBL local leaders in his residence here, the former foreign minister said he was optimistic that government projects in Batangas would be implemented after the release of the \$630 million standby credit loan from the IMF.

Collantes also called on the members of the Batangas KBL chapter to close ranks and be a cohesive group in implementing government projects which would benefit the people.

Former chief revenue officer Querubin "Mac" Makalintal representing BROMPT chairman Maria Kalaw Katigbak, echoed the call of Collantes for party unity and even suggested that major party matters such as the selection of local chairman should be made in accordance to the rules of the ruling party.

Reacting to a published report that he was thinking of running for governor, Collantes said he has no intention to be a provincial executive but would devote his time to serve the people in the province who elected him to the Batasan.

CSO: 4200/1052

LANAO, PRINCESS TARRHATA MOURN LUCMAN, LAUREL REPRESENTED

Manila PHILIPPINE PANORAMA in English 2 Sep 84 pp 16-20, 43

[Article by Fred J. Reyes: "Mourning in Moroland--A Sultan's Death Breathes New Life into a People's Quest for Peace"]

[Text]

ONE COULD tell exactly where Moroland started on the motorcade's steep climb from Iligan City to Balo-i: suddenly, the roadside was lined with white banners of mourning, throngs of people stood on both sides of the road, the women hiding their faces with white veils of grief, the children waving white flags, all of them heaving with shouts of "*Allahu Akbar!*" (God is great!), the Muslim *Takbir* which is all at once a prayer of worship, a rallying cry, a salutation and, in this case, an outpouring of sorrow.

Bands of white cloth hung from window sills like white scars on weathered faces. There were *osonan* in great numbers, those white dome shaped structures that told passers-by that one of royal blood had made the return to Allah's bosom. Streamers on walls and on ceremonial arches proclaimed the name of the man for whom

Moroland wore white that day: "Sultan Haroun Al-Rashid Lucman of the Royal House of Bayang, martyr for the cause of Islam." They made no mention that the deceased was chairman of the Bangsa Moro Liberation Organization (BMLO) at the time of his death on July 21, that he was twice a congressman and was leader of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) before Nur Misuari and other young turks of the Muslim rebel movement in the South ousted him in a divisive coup during the early seventies. He did have his differences with some of the young Muslim intellectuals and hotheads but his popularity with the masses was well-preserved. "We love Ras," simply declared the makeshift placards.

The first of the *osonan* had been presented to the sultan's widow and children at the Cagayan de Oro airport where the first of the weeping spells

took place. The city has a sizable Muslim community, but the crowd that wept at the sight of the Sultan's bereaved family included a big contingent from towns on the southern side of Lake Lanao. It was the widow, Princess Tarhata Alonto Lucman, who had to comfort the inconsolable crowd. "The sultan is not dead," she said in Maranaw, "he has become part of every-one of you. He continues to live if you carry on his work."

Five of the sultan's children were with her, all of them witnesses to the last days of the Muslim leader. Bai Normallah Lucman Pacasum, who has started writing a biography of her father, stayed close to her mother for support. Nuruddin was excited about stepping on Maranaw soil for the first time in 12 years. Just as shy were Lorraine and Salahuddin who had to interrupt their studies to make it

to this homecoming, and Haroun Al-Rashid II, whom many in the crowd pointed out as his father's likeliest successor to the throne of Bayang. A conspicuous non-Muslim in the party was Celia Diaz Laurel, who expressed the condolences of her husband, oppositionist Salvador H. Laurel, at every opportunity.

The motorcade from the airport first stopped at the Iligan Institute of Technology, a beneficiary of the late sultan's work as a congressman. It was welcomed there by Muslim and Christian community leaders, notably the Institute's director, Manarus Boransing. It was a quick stopover; the proceedings were subdued and the speeches brief. The same thing took place a little later in Balo-i, Lanao del Norte, except that the welcoming party, this time led by Mayor Bzar Daud Ali, was considerably larger.

Balo-i is the seat of another ancient sultanate that once held sway from Cagayan de Oro over an expanse that today covers four provinces, and its people know what it is to lose a sultan. The Sultan of Balo-i, Sabdulah Ali Pacasum, who once languished in prison as a rebel suspect, was detained this time by pressing business concerns in Manila. He had earlier issued a royal statement citing Rashid Lucman as an exemplary Muslim who did credit to all the 19 royal houses of Mindanao and Sulu. "One need not agree with the ideas of Sultan Lucman," stressed the Sultan of Balo-i, "to appreciate what he had done for all Filipino Muslims."

Another brief stopover had been scheduled at Pantar, Lanao del Norte, but motorcade marshals dropped the idea for lack of time. It was well past ten a.m. and word went around that since early morning some 40,000 people had flocked to the Jamiatul Philippine Al-Islamia in Marawi City for the prayer rally that was to be the day's main activity. They must not be kept waiting. But at Sagularan, Lanao del Sur, an unscheduled stop was forced on the motorcade. It simply could not move on as the crowd of commiserators spilled out to the road itself.

In Marawi, at the Jamiatul's wide quadrangle, the people of Moroland poured out their hearts. Members of the late sultan's family, largely composed during the earlier proceedings, now abandoned their tautly held reserve and wept with the masses crying "Allahu Akbar!" Grown men dropped the stony masks of their decorum and wiped their tear-swollen eyes with hems of their kaffiyeh, headgear of warriors.

This time the sultan's widow spoke of peace and unity as the elusive things that her husband had worked for--peace as the consequence of unity and a sense of brotherhood among Muslims for their fellow Muslims as well as for their Christian brothers, prosperity as a function of a just and stable peace. Peace, she assured her listeners, was attainable. There was relative peace, she said, when she was their governor. Why couldn't they have peace now?

Even as she spoke military operations were going on across the lake, in the forested hills of Ramain and Lumba-a-Bayabao, quite visible if one stood at a high point in that hilly Islamic city. What was not visible was the smoke of artillery, not audible were the taunts of the enclaved rebels for the soldiers to come in and mix it up. Over a hundred rebels had died in the fighting that began three days before the end of the month of Ramadan (about June 25), according to newspaper reports. Marawi residents could not understand why the Manila-based newspapers began to shrill about it only the previous day (August 11). Don't you believe it, remonstrated a local policeman in his Maranaw-accented Tagalog. "H'wag kayong maniwala d'yen." It's the military, he said, that was suffering heavy casualties. Whatever the real score was, Filipino blood was being spilled, and there was no peace.

TO THE PUBLIC MIND,

Haroun Al-Rashid Lucman could only be an unlikely man of peace. His elders remember him as a mischievous and quarrelsome youth though he was always the leader and the center of attention in the circles where he moved. Born of royal core lineage, he first earned a reputation in the jungles of Lanao as a ferocious guerilla leader during the Japanese occupation. After the war, serving as a technical assistant to President Magsaysay, he went back to his impulsive, happy-go-lucky ways. He was courting the loveliest jewel of the politically powerful Alonto clan, Princess

Tarhata, when he was accused, along with a cousin, of murdering a relative. The Court of First Instance slapped on them a prison term of five to 12 years. Rashid appealed the verdict, only to get a stiffer sentence -- life imprisonment -- from the Supreme Court. Anticipating this setback, he jumped bail and took to the hills of his native Bayang, Lanao del Sur. By then he had married, in traditional pomp and pageantry, the unwilling warden of his heart, the young Tarhata. "There were two rumors going around in Marawi at that time," Princess Tarhata muses. "Both of them were

false. The first was that Rashid murdered somebody, the second was that I was his fiancée." Of the two rumors, however, one came true.

"If I did not marry him then," she recalls a bit wistfully, "there would have been a lot of bloodshed." She was sure that he was innocent of the charges that led to his conviction and she married him, she recounts, on condition that he would not go off waging a vendetta to appease his violated sense of justice. So she went with him to that kotta in Bayang where 200 heavily armed men dared the authorities to move in and get their fugitive datu.

Their Bayang sojourn, however, was more idyllic than embattled and in time, Rashid and his cousin were persuaded to surrender to the authorities. They had barely served ten days in jail when President Carlos P. Garcia granted them conditional pardon on the basis of new evidence unearthed by the National Bureau of Investigation and the Philippine Constabulary. That rendered academic Lucman's demand for a retrial. It also scandalized a very critical Manila press. Lucman, however, unflinchingly maintained that he was innocent, that he had been the victim of a crude frame-up that was, in turn, part of a concerted political persecution. Pretty soon, he furrowed more brows by announcing that he was running for Congress.

He won handily and went on to become a fighting lawmaker in the mold of Benigno Aquino, Jr., and Jose B. Laurel, Jr., both of whom he admired and with whom he developed a profound friendship.

But while his star rose in politics, the Lucman wealth, not formidably much to start with, began to decline. This was, says Princess Tarhata, due to his reckless generosity. Once, when a boatload of Filipino Muslim pilgrims were stranded in Jeddah as a result of some misunderstanding over payment of fares, he flew over to join the grounded wayfarers before he knew precisely what the problem was. He wired her instructions to raise money needed to charter a boat to bring home the pilgrims abandoned by the MV Margarita, something in the vicinity of P2 million. Dutifully, she rushed to Cotabato and sold the family hacienda in that province, all 1040 hectares planted to bananas, coconut, abaca and coffee. "Only Ras," says a Maranaw admirer, "can do that sort of thing."

Countless funerals and weddings were made possible because of financial assistance from him.

To his constituents, Lucman's finest moments in public life were the times he stood on the floor of Congress to denounce what he considered to be instances of travesty of justice--including the Jabidah fiasco.

The Jabidah affair launched many Muslim leaders, including Lucman on the revolutionary road. In 1968, he arranged for the training of young Muslim professionals and students in guerilla warfare in a nearby foreign country. These included Nur Misauri, Hashim Salamat, Dimas Pundato, Abul Khayr Alonto,

Amelil Malaquiok. By the time martial law was declared, and Rashid Lucman, now sultan of Bayang, had left the country, there was in Mindanao a well-armed, well-trained corps of young revolutionaries forging a Bangsa Moro army. Lucman also left behind a wife who had come into her own as a politician, having won the governorship of Lanao del Sur in a stormy, protest-ridden election. At that time Jimmy Lucman and Dimas Pundato were her chief provincial guard and warden respectively.

For a while he got along very well with the leftist Nur Misuari but the honeymoon was not to last. Lucman was a sultan, totally committed to Islam. Misuari, though ritually a Muslim, was reading Marx out of Muhammad's teachings and looked with a leery egalitarian eye on Mindanao's hereditary rulers. When Lucman was not looking, Misuari pulled a coup of sorts, leaving out the sultan from the inchoate MNLF. Appropriating two planeloads of assault rifles from a Middle Eastern country, arms that would have been distributed according to Lucman's wishes as they were sent over in his name, the Misuari group set up a series of bloody confrontations with the military. These clashes were a great deal more purposive than the Marawi uprising of October 1972.

A furious Lucman came back to the country to temporary accommodation with the martial law government. In the process, he was crowned the Paramount

Sultan by the 19 royal houses of Mindanao and Sulu, a title that Princess Tarhata herself does not consider truly meaningful. Still, Sultan Lucman thought that the Mindanao State University (MSU) pageant that installed him as Paramount

Sultan would lead to the institution of the traditional rulers of the Muslim South in the country's secular political set-up. This, he thought would be a step towards the solution of Mindanao's problems. He was soon to be disillusioned even before the ceremonies were over. An organized group of *Ulama* picketted at the MSU to decry the feudal implication of the rites. Embittered by the death of a grandson in a bombing incident at MSU, he left the country again in 1974, the same year his wife resigned the governorship of Lanao del Sur. She had been unjustly blamed for the death of her own adopted son, Major Ortega. Not long after, the BLMO made its presence felt in various Islamic capitals.

The government's peace offensive of 1975 and 1976 culminated in the signing of the Tripoli Agreement in Libya on December 23, 1976 under the auspices of the Islamic countries which were serving as peace mediators. Defense Undersecretary Carmelo Barbero signed for the Philippine government, Nur Misuari for the MNLF. Sultan Lucman was not a party to this agreement which led to a precarious ceasefire in 1977.

The heart of the Tripoli Agreement is the grant of reasonable autonomy to the Muslim South

but it left a lot of details for threshing out "later." No subsequent negotiations have taken place, however, and since then the Philippine government has conducted a referendum that was boycotted by the MNLF and has gone on to implement its own version of autonomy for the Muslim regions and consequently, its own interpretation of the Tripoli Agreement. Misuari, on the other hand, fell back on a concept of autonomy that was all but secession in name.

Throughout the rest of his life, Lucman stood for an agreement to which he was not a party and which, to his mind, had been repudiated by its signatories. And he had always been willing to negotiate with the Marcos Administration so that the implementation of the agreement would be closer to the letter of the original text. The government, on the other hand,

had always made it clear that it welcomed negotiations, but with whom — the BMLO, the MNLF, or the splinter groups?

With that, Lucman had his *jihad* (struggle) cut out for him: it is only by unifying that the Bangsa Moro people can get President Marcos back to the negotiating table, it is only by negotiating successfully with the President for an autonomy closer to their heart's desire that justice can be attained without bloodshed. Bangsa Moro unity as the prelude to a workable unity with the rest of the Filipinos became his obsession. He worked himself to the bone for this vision.

The last landmark in the career of Sultan Lucman was the January 1983 conference of the MNLF, BMLO and other Muslim leaders in Karachi, Pakistan, under the auspices of the Muslim World Congress.

For that to be possible, another chunk of the much dwindled Lucman estate had to be sacrificed. Refusing help from the Ministry of Muslim Affairs, he ordered his wife to sell their landholdings in Iligan City so that Muslim leaders like Salipada Pendatun, former Sen. Domaciao Alonto, Putli Amilbangsa, Speaker Ututalum and Mayor Abubacar, could make the trip to Karachi. The Karachi confab yielded a communique that organized the Philippine Muslim Solidarity Conference and expressed the willingness of the represented groups to negotiate with the Philippine government "for a sincere, complete and final implementation of the Tripoli Agreement." But Misuari snubbed the conference (he objected to the presence of then Muslim Affairs Minister Romulo Espaldon) and not everybody whom Lucman wanted to sign the communique actually did. Otherwise, the document would have ultimately tested the sincerity of President Marcos on the solution of the Muslim Mindanao problem. The letdown virtually broke the sultan's aging heart.

He tried again, however, despite his failing health and a creeping weariness with the world. At the time of his death, he was organizing a unity conference to coincide with the month of the hajj—roughly this month—at Makkah.

Bedridden in Jeddah, he received the embrace of Misuari as well as his assurances that he would not stand in the way of unity in that conference. Other Muslim leaders in exile pledged their support, but they were pledging it to a man who was not fated to see its fulfillment.

By then he was a far cry from the man who cut a broad, colorful swath in the House of Representatives some two decades ago. He had grown introspective and willing enough to yield the limelight. In a unified Muslim Mindanao, he felt that he did not have to be the leader anymore--he was perfectly willing to work even in a much less exalted capacity than Misuari and the other prodigals so long as they would unite. He was willing to purchase that unity with the hard coin of his mortification. In the end he often talked of forgiveness and reconciliation. He easily forgave Misuari but the same could not be said of two relatives whom he thought, and this was confirmed by Misuari himself, so despicably betrayed him. Still, he must have forgiven them. His last words were fittingly, "Allahu Akbar."

Princess Tarhata had a faraway look when she reminisced in the light of evening lamps. Her grief was all the more haunting because it was lightly limned. She had gone through a good number of crises in her more than a half a century of life and she bore her sorrows with dignity. It was she who decided that her husband's remains be buried in the holy city of Makkah in spite of the frantic attempts of relatives to convince her otherwise. Any true Muslim would wish to sleep forever in the very cradle of Islam; she would not deny that to him. His grave, but for a small marker for identification, is flat and bare, in keeping with Muslim belief that death is completely egalitarian. Because he died in a foreign land striving for the cause of brotherhood and peace, he was truly a martyr of Islam even if his only legacy is an unfinished quest for peace. That was what all those tears were for, some of them shed by old political enemies. Gov Muhammad Ali Dimaporo had eulogized him at a gathering at the Manila Intercontinental Hotel, tears streaming down his face. So did Assemblyman Omar Dianalan at the Batasang Pambansa. As did today the scores of thousands of Moros of the asonan-ringed lake.

CSO: 4200/1052

'LIGHT-A-FIRE' TRIAL RESUMES AFTER YEAR LONG RECESS

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 3 Sep 84 pp 1, 2

[Text] After almost a year of recess, the Light-A-Fire movement case will again be heard tomorrow morning at Camp Aguinaldo. Respondents in the case are Eduardo Olaguer, Othoniel Jimenez, Rene Marciano, Macario Acheron, Reynaldo Maclang and Ester Jimenez.

Arrested in December 1979, they were charged of conspiracy to incite rebellion, possession of explosives, illegal possession of firearms, arson and intent to assassinate the President and First Lady.

Except for Mrs Jimenez and Acheron who are under temporary release, the rest are being held in Bagong Diwa, Bicutan.

The military has tried to link the Light-a-Fire case to the We Forum case through the use of a common witness, a move which infuriated the defense lawyers who withdrew from the case. Only Marciano now has a lawyer who is a close relative.

The military lawyers volunteered their services but were turned down by the accused.

The prosecution rested its case in October 1983. Since then, there has never been any hearing, as the military tribunal never mustered complete attendance of its board members.

The transcript of the case was provided the accused only last July and the accused, none of them lawyers, are preparing their own defense.

CSO: 4200/1052

CARDINAL SIN REFUSES TO SAY MASS FOR PRESIDENT'S BIRTHDAY

Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 5 Sep 84 pp 1, 2

[Article by Larry V. Sipin]

[Tdx] Jaime Cardinal Sin has refused to say Mass at a prayer rally scheduled to be held at the Quirino grandstand in the Luneta on Tuesday, September 11 as part of the celebration of President Marcos' birthday.

A very reliable source told Malaya that Cardinal Sin declined an invitation from Metro Manila mayors for him to say mass at the prayer rally on the ground that a mass celebrated at the Luneta on such an occasion would be tainted with political color.

The invitation was reportedly relayed to the Cardinal by Manila Mayor Ramon Bagatsing.

The source, however, said that the Cardinal is willing to say mass to commemorate the President's birthday at the Sto. Domingo church or in any other church.

It will be recalled that Sin celebrated mass at the Sto. Domingo church last August 21 as part of the nationwide commemoration of the first death anniversary of the late Sen Benigno Aquino, Jr.

According to the source, the prayer rally is being organized by the mayors of Metro Manila's four cities and 13 municipalities. It was reportedly proposed by Makati mayor Nemesio Yabut at a meeting of the mayors last week.

The source also disclosed that the mayors want the rally to be an expression of the people's "deep affection and loyalty to the birthday celebrant." They have reportedly lined up the President as the sole speaker on the occasion.

The source further said that the mayors and other government officials, including heads of ministries and other government institutions, were given "attendance quotas" from their respective areas or offices.

The organizers want to match, if not surpass, the crowd that gathered at the Luneta on the anniversary of Ninoy's death, the source said.

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

SECURITY AT BORDER DISTRICT REINFORCED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 8 Jul 84 p 2

[Article by The Doanh: "Building Security Front in Ky Son Border District"]

[Text] Ky Son, a Meo highland district of Nghe Tinh Province, shares a 185 km common border with the LPDR through which passes Highway No 7. This vital artery is being widened to accommodate the rapid changes we are bringing to our neighboring friends in economic, defense and commercial transportation fields.

It takes about half a day to go from Muong Van, the district's political, economic and cultural center, to the port of Nam Can. On the other side of the port, lies the province of Xieng Khoang and its base Long Cheng, which was before the liberation of Laos the bastion of the Vang Pao bandits. The mountain flanks that border the Nam Son and Nam Mo waterways are inhabited by the tribesmen.

Of the Ky Son's population of 31,000, 98 percent are Hmong Mu and Thai tribesmen. The tribesmen at the Viet-Laos border has enjoyed a long established kinship. They live mostly on products they get from slash-burning, planting of rice, corn and manioc and from raising livestock.

The Party's settled-life, settled-farming and collectivization programs have, in the last few years, gradually changed the face of Ky Son's tribal villages.

Under the former regime, our tribesmen were victims of several layers of oppression. As a result, they were less educated and more indifferent of social developments. Descendants of the same source but from different tribes, they have opted to discriminate against each other very seriously--a retrograde attitude they inherited from the French who exploited their weakness to divide and reign.

During the war, the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys have poured into Ky Son 12 commando and espionage groups whose mission was collecting intelligence, recruiting local people, committing piracy and disturbing our productive labor efforts and the peaceful life of the tribesmen.

In recent years, the Beijing reactionary homogenists, in collusion with the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary powers, have staged a multifacet war of sabotage against our nation. They strengthened their forces of espionage and reconnaissance agents of the antirevolutionary elements who joined their ranks during the war. Then, they sent them back to Ky Son to carry out piracy and psychological warfare aiming at deforming our people's thinking and eroding their confidence in the party and damaging the long established solidarity fighting spirit of the people along the Viet-Laos border.

In response to this new situation, the District Party Committee promptly issued new guidelines for implementing security measures and strengthening the party's organizations and the people's associations.

The military command conducted an intensive investigation to help identify the enemy, to determine their area of activity and to seek appropriate security measures to prevent the incursion of the commando and reconnaissance agents, to prevent acts of piracy and rebellion, and to prevent the escape of undesirable elements to foreign countries.

Thanks to the above measures, Ky Son now can effectively devise appropriate security measures for each locality in anticipation of any possible attacks. In the process of fighting against antirevolutionary and other criminal activities, Ky Son has learned that it owed its success to the cooperation of the people. They also learned that they should totally devote themselves to the well-being of the movements of the masses. Faced with these realities, the public security forces and military command have successfully helped the party committee set up basic task forces to help the villages strengthen their people's movements. Together with the party committee and local authorities, the public security forces and military command have encouraged the people at the border set up, and frequently consolidate, a solid security and defensive line and adopt appropriate security measures to prevent the enemy's incursion and assaults. Militia forces were trained in interarms tactics and in fighting in mountainous regions. To date, Ky Son has set up and put into service 20 militia companies whose duty was to keep public order and eventually fight the invaders.

To ensure victory, Ky Son's most urgent preoccupation is to set up self-contained combat units at each village and group, which uses only local personnel and supplies, but when needs arise, will join forces to attack the enemy on every front. In recent years, the public security forces have arrested in time a spy for the Chinese, Vi Van T, a spy for the Americans, Vi Ban B, and eight bandits who joined the enemy during the war. Six suspicious persons were netted by the local militia and public security forces thanks to the information provided by the vigilant Phan Thi Que of Ta Ca; they were former officers of the puppet regime who escaped from their reeducation camps in the southern provinces and were trying to sneak out of the country. The combined patrols of the army, public security and militia forces have uncovered several illegal attempts to escape to foreign countries.

In light of the complexity of the security problems at the border and of an unsuitable degree of awareness of the people, Ky Son has set up groups of cadres who, under the direct supervision of the comrades in the District Party Executive Committee and in the District People's Committee, will go to the villages to help consolidate the party's organizations and the people's associations. The party's motto is to view the task of defending the fatherland as the cause for the consolidation of the party's activities at the bases, which in turn will serve as a catalyst for other revolutionary activities.

With the people and terrain of operation in mind and with the help of the party committee and local authorities, the basic task forces have set up meetings to help people study the party's directives and resolutions pertaining to security and defense measures in the face of new situations. Through it, they have gradually helped our tribesmen become aware of the multifaceted war of sabotage being waged by the enemy, they have helped them distinguish between friends and enemies and recognize the true insidious nature of the Chinese reactionary hegemonists. As a result, our vigilant tribesmen have helped identify a number of subjects whose conduct was less than desirable. During the last 3 years, they have furnished about 10,000 leads to the public security forces helping them uncover many serious crimes and successfully track down the enemy. They are doing this now, and they will do it in the future. Tribesmen in Tham Hin village have arrested 10 bandits, recovered 2 AK rifles, 2 carbines and 68 bullets, which they handed over to the public security forces.

False propaganda manipulations aiming at inciting the uncooperative elements to pursue their nomad life, called (chau pha) and (xung don vua) have been broken.

Besides establishing a security network along the border and promoting the right of collective ownership of our tribesmen, the public security forces of Ky Son have also maintained a solid and friendly relationship with the security forces of Muong Moc and Noong Het Districts, Xiang Khoang Province of Laos in order to exchange information that can help track down the enemy from afar and preserve the border sovereignty and friendship of both nations.

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CSO: 4209/399

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NHAN DAN PUBLISHES FOREIGN LEADERS' GREETINGS

OW131951 Hanoi VNA in English 1532 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] Hanoi, 13 Sep (VNA)--The paper NHAN DAN today frontpages messages of greetings on Vietnam's 39th National Day from the Algerian Democratic and People's Republic, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the Republic of Iraq, the People's Republic of Congo, the People's Republic of Benin, the Republic of Seychelles and the Democratic Republic of Madagascar.

President Chadli Benjedid, secretary general of the Algerian National Liberation Front Party (ANLFP) Central Committee, says in his message: "May the militant solidarity and the time-honoured friendly and cooperative relations between our two countries be further consolidated and developed. I wish the fraternal Vietnamese people happiness and progress in socialist construction."

Abdelhamid Brahimi, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the ANLFP Central Committee and Algerian prime minister, writes to Chairman Phan Van Dong. "I believe that the traditional friendship and close cooperation between our two countries will further consolidate in the interests of our two peoples."

President of the Syrian Arab Republic Hafez al-Assad says in his message: "We highly appreciate Vietnam's support for our people in the struggle to liberate Arab occupied territories and to restore the Arab people's rights."

The message from Y. 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, says: "The Arab Palestinian people admire the Vietnamese people who have through decades of fighting set an excellent example of heroism and unsubmitiveness in face of the U.S. war machinery."

The PLO chairman reaffirmed the Palestinian people's determination to carry on their revolution until victory for the establishment of a national and independent state of Palestine." [Quotation marks as received]

President of the Republic of Iraq Saddam Hussayin in his message wishes the fraternal Vietnamese people new achievements and progress.

Colonel Denis Sassou Nguesso, president of the Congolese Party of Labour Central Committee, chief of the state and prime minister of the People's Republic of Congo, writes to President Truong Chinh: "The Congolese people firmly believe that the Vietnamese people under your clear-sighted leadership will record still greater achievements in building a socialist, free and prosperous society."

Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Party of the People's Revolutionary Central Committee, president and head of the National Executive Council of the People's Republic of Benin, in his message extends the "sincere desire to further promote the friendly and cooperative relations and close solidarity, between the two countries and the two peoples with the common aim of building a world of peace, justice and social progress."

The president of the Republic of Seychelles, France Albert Rene, in his message to President Truong Chinh expressed his wish to promote the friendly relations and solidarity between the two countries.

President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar Didier Ratsiraka, for his part, wishes for further development of "the friendly relations between our two countries" progress and prosperity for the Vietnamese people.

CSO: 4200/1059

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

LEADERS SENDING NATIONAL DAY GREETINGS LISTED

BK161502 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] On the occasion of our 39th National Day, our state leaders have received messages of greetings from the president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Muhammad Husni Mubarak; Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom; the president of Iceland, Vigdis Finnbogadottir; the president of the Republic of Austria, Rudolf Kirchschlaeger; the president of the Republic of Portugal, Antonio Ramalho Eanes; the president of the Republic of Burundi, Jean-Baptiste Bagaza; the governor general of Canada, Jeanne Sauve; the president of the FRG, Richard von Weizsaecker; the president of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Canaan Banana; the prime minister of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe; the president of the Republic of Guinea, chairman of the Military Committee for National Restoration, Colonel Lansana Conte; the president of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, Forbes Burnham; Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands; the president of the Hellenic Republic, Konstandinos Karamanlis; Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg; the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Seyyed Khamene'i; the prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Musavi-Khamene'i; the president of the Italian Republic, Sandro Pertini; the president of the Republic of Malta, Agatha Barbara; the king of Malaysia, Sutan Iskandar; the prime minister of Malaysia, Mahathir bin Mohamed; the president of the Republic of Mali and secretary general of the Mali People's Democratic Union, General Moussa Traore; the president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala; the president of the United Mexican States, Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado; King Olav of the Kingdom of Norway; the president of the State Presidency of the SFRY, Veselin Djuranovic; the president of the SFRY Federal Executive Council, Milka Planinc; the president of the SFRY Assembly, Dusan Alimpić; the president of the Military Government and the commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Major General Muhammadu Buhari; Emperor Hirohito of Japan; the president of the Republic of Cyprus, Spiros Kiprianou; the president of Singapore, Devan Nair; King Phumiphon of Thailand; the prime minister of Thailand, Prem [Tinsulanon]; the president of the Swiss Confederation, Leon Schlumpf; the president of the Republic of Tunisia, Habib Bourguiba; the prime minister of the Republic of Tunisia, Mohamed Mzali; the president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, (Mohamed Abdel Aviv); the prime minister of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, (Mohamed Lamil Ould Ahmed); the president of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe,

Manuel Pinto da Costa; the president of the Republic of Senegal, Abdou Diouf; the president of the Yemen Arab Republic, the commander in chief of the armed forces, and the general secretary of the General People's Congress, Colonel Ali Abdallah Salih; and the president of the PRC, Li Xiannian.

On this occasion, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has also received messages of greetings from the foreign minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Muhammad 'Isnat 'Abd al-Majid; the minister of state for foreign affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Dr Butrus Ghali; the foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati; the foreign minister of Malaysia, Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen; the secretary of foreign relations of the United Mexican States, Bernardo Sepulveda Amor; the federal secretary of foreign affairs of the SFRY, Rado Dizdarevic; the minister of foreign affairs of New Zealand, David Lange; the minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Tunisia, Beji Caid es-Sebsi; and the foreign minister of Thailand, Sitthi [Sawetsila].

CSO: 4209/466

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VNA CITES PASASON ON SITTHI'S ANTI-SRV 'LIES'

OW140850 Hanoi VNA In English 0720 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Hanoi, 14 Sep (VNA)--The Lao newspaper PASASON in its 11 September commentary said that the distortions and lies against Vietnam uttered by Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila were a dirty trick of China to use others to cover its own crimes against the people of the Indochinese countries and elsewhere in Southeast Asia.

Sitthi Sawetsila in an interview with XINHEA said that "Vietnam may cause trouble on the Kampuchean-Thai border" and "support the Lao Army in an attack on Thailand."

These allegations, the paper noted, were made following the Thai foreign minister's visit to China and Beijing's convening of its Kampuchean lackers at Zhongnanhai to plot against the Indochinese countries. Beijing has exhorted the reactionary ultra-rightists in the Thai ruling circles, particularly Athit Kanlang-ek, to send troops to occupy the three Lao hamlets while claiming that "Vietnam is prodding Laos to occupy Thai territory." Beijing's scheme is sling mud at Vietnam, play down and distort the Indochinese countries' good will for peace, stability, friendship and cooperation in Southeast Asia. Beijing is also using the reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles as a shield for the so-called "coalition government of Democratic Kampuchean" aimed at undermining the revolution in Kampuchea and other Indochinese countries.

"By using its accomplices as mouthpieces to slander Vietnam and the other two Indochinese countries, Beijing can deceive nobody. Instead has only revealed its sinister designs before the world people," PASASON pointed out.

CSO: 4209/466

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

MINERS UNION BACKS UK COUNTERPARTS--We have learned that the strike by British coalminers against pit closures and massive layoffs has entered the 7th month. Here in Vietnam, the Trade Union and workers of the coalmine industry have been following with keen interest and fully supporting the courageous struggle of our friends, the coalminers in Britain, for secure employment, social welfare, and trade union rights. We resolutely demand that the British authorities and the coalmine owners meet the demands raised by the British coalminers and immediately stop forthwith the arrest and acts of repression of the striking workers. [Text] [Statement by (Nguyen Trong Mao), vice secretary of the Trade Union of Coalminers in Vietnam on current British miners strike--date not given--recorded in Vietnamese and fading into English translation] [BK131249 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 13 Sep 84]

DELEGATION TO FRENCH COMMUNIST FUNCTION--Hanoi, 12 Sep (VNA)--Ho Duong, deputy editor-in-chief of the NHAN DAN daily, organ of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, attended the annual festival of L'HUMANITE, organ of the French Communist Party Central Committee, held in La Courneuve on the outskirts of Paris from 8-9 September. The Vietnamese arts and crafts pavilion at the festival was visited by Maxime Gremetz, Political Bureau member and secretary of the FCP CC; Jean Colpin, Political Bureau member of the FCP CC; Henri Krauswucki, Political Bureau member of the party CC and secretary general of the French General Confederation of Labour (CGT); and Charles Fourniaur, secretary general of the France-Vietnam Friendship Association. Georges Marchais, secretary general of the FCP, cordially received Ho Duong Monday. Ho Duong also attended a reception given in honour of the foreign guests by Roland Leroy, Political Bureau member of the FCP CC and director of L'HUMANITE. Later in the same day, Ho Duong called at the editorial board of L'HUMANITE where he was warmly received by Francois Hilsun, member of the party CC and director of L'HUMANITE-DIMANCHE, and Rene Andrieu, member of the party CC and editor-in-chief of L'HUMANITE. [Text] [OW122138 Hanoi VNA in English 1905 GMT 12 Sep 84]

HOANG TRUNG THUYEN MEETS LAO DELEGATION--Hanoi, 13 Sep (VNA)--A delegation of the Lao Institute of Awards and Emulation led by its director, Bouahame Houmphanh, has been visiting Vietnam since 3 September. The delegation had working sessions with officials of the Vietnam Institute of Awards

and toured some establishments with high emulation movements. Doan Trong Truyen, minister, and secretary general of the Council of Ministers today received the Lao guests. [Text] [OW131644 Hanoi VNA in English 1530 GMT 13 Sep 84]

NATIONAL DAY GREETINGS--Hanoi, 14 Sep (VNA)--Francois Mitterrand, president of the Republic of France, has sent a message to President Truong Chinh greeting Vietnam's 39th National Day. The message says: "I rejoice at the fine friendly and cooperative relations between our two countries." National Day messages have also been received from King Carl Gustaf XVI of Sweden, Finnish President Mauno Koivisto, Australian Governor General Ninian M. Stephen, Indonesian President Suharto, President U San Yu, Prime Minister Maung Maung Kha and Foreign Minister Chit Hlaing of Burma, and President Ferdinand Marcos of the Republic of Philippines. President Marcos wrote in his message: "May the relations that have bound our two countries be further developed in the interests of our two nations." [Text] [OW140813 Hanoi VNA in English 0742 GMT 14 Sep 84]

UN POPULATION REPRESENTATIVES--Hanoi, 14 Sep (VNA)--The Vietnam National Commission on Population and Family Planning has held here recently a meeting and working session with international organizations concerned with the United Nations Population Development Programme (UNDP). Present at the meeting and session were Karl H. Englund, representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Fund for Population Activity (UNFPA); Michel Paul Amiot, deputy representative of the UNFPA; representatives of the World Health Organization (WHO) and of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and representatives of Vietnam's concerned organizations. The representative of the UNFPA expressed his satisfaction at the results obtained by the Vietnam National Commission on Population and Family Planning over recent years and said that the UN will continue its cooperation with and aid to Vietnam in this field in the 1984-87 program. [Text] [OW142102 Hanoi VNA in English 1523 GMT 14 Sep 84]

SOVIET WRITER'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED--Hanoi, 14 Sep (VNA)--A talk was organized in Hanoi this evening by the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association and its Hanoi chapter and the Vietnam Writers' Association in honour of the 80th birth anniversary of Soviet writer Nikolai Ostrovski. Present were members of the Central Committee of the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association and the Vietnam Writers' Association, and many admirers of the Soviet writers. Vietnamese writer Ho Phuong spoke of the life and works of Nikolai Ostrovski, his valuable contributions to Soviet literature and to world literature as a whole. [Text] [OW142107 Hanoi VNA in English 1511 GMT 14 Sep 84]

GOVERNOR OF GUINEA VISITS VIETNAM--Hanoi, 14 Sep (VNA)--President of the State Council Truong Chinh today sent a message of greetings to Siry Alpha Conde, president of the Republic of Guinea. The message said: "On the occasion of the 18th Independence Day of the Republic of Guinea, I wish to extend to your excellency, the government and people of Guinea my warm congratulations. May the friendship between the people of our two countries develop, consolidate and develop. Please accept, your excellency, the assurance of our high consideration." On this occasion,

Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach also cabled greetings to his Costa Rican counterpart Carlos Jose Gutierrez. [Text] [OW142052 Hanoi VNA in English 1525 GMT 14 Sep 84]

GREETINGS TO MEXICAN PRESIDENT--Hanoi, 15 Sep (VNA)--President of the State Council Truong Chinh today sent warm greetings to Miguel De La Madrid Hurtado, president of the United States of Mexico, on the 174th anniversary of his country's independence day (16 September). President Truong Chinh wished the Mexican people greater achievements in building a prosperous country and further consolidation and development of the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries. On the same occasion, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has sent greetings to his Mexican counterpart, Bernardo Sepulveda Amor. [Text] [OW151755 Hanoi VNA in English 1455 GMT 15 Sep 84]

MESSAGE ON KAMPUCHEAN FLOOD--Hanoi, 17 Sep (VNA)--Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong today sent a message to his Kampuchean counterpart, Chan Si, expressing his deep sympathies with the people in the provinces of Kratie, Kongpom Cham, Pray Veng, Takeo, and Kandal over their material and human losses caused by a recent flood. He expressed the wish that the Kampuchean people would quickly overcome the consequences of the disaster and gain still bigger achievements in their national revival. [Text] [OW171607 Hanoi VNA in English 1522 GMT 17 Sep 84]

MALAGASY EDUCATION DELEGATION--Hanoi, 17 Sep (VNA)--A delegation of the Madagascan Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research led by Minister Ignace Rakoto, Political Bureau member of the Vanguard Party of the Malagasy Revolution (AREMA), left here today, concluding an 11-day friendly visit to Vietnam. While here, the delegation had working sessions with the Ministry of Secondary Vocational and Higher Education. The two sides exchanged experience on higher education and discussed measures to enhance cooperation between the two countries in the time ahead. It toured several colleges, vocational schools, and economic and cultural establishments in Hanoi. Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong cordially received the Madagatan guests. They were also received on separate occasions by Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Nguyen Giap and Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach. They also visited the Ho Chi Minh City and Hau Giang Province. [Text] [OW171636 Hanoi VNA in English 1523 GMT 17 Sep 84]

ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS--Hanoi, 18 Sep (VNA)--Seferdjell Azoua [spelling as received], the newly appointed ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Algerian Democratic and People's Republic, presented here today his credentials to Vice President of the State Council Nguyen Han Tho. The Vietnamese vice president had a cordial talk with the Algerian ambassador. Present on the occasion were Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and Le Thanh, acting director of the Office of the National Assembly and the State Council. [Text] [BE181648 Hanoi VNA in English 1548 GMT 18 Sep 84]

JAMAICAN PARTY CONGRESS DELETED--Hanoi, 18 Sep (VNA)--The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam has sent a message of greetings to the 40th congress of the People's National Party of Jamaica. The message notes that the congress is taking place in a very tense international atmosphere due to the warlike policy of intervention and arms race pursued by the Reagan administration and other reactionary forces which is seriously threatening peace and stability in Central America and the Caribbean and the rest of the world. It wishes the congress success in order to actively contribute to the just struggle of the Jamaican people against imperialism and other reactionary forces in defence of their national independence, sovereignty and natural resources, and to the revolutionary struggle of the Caribbean and Latin American peoples for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress. "May the friendship and solidarity between our two parties and our two peoples further consolidate and develop," the message adds. [Text] [BK190549 Hanoi VNA in English 1541 GMT 18 Sep 84]

PRC FOREIGN MINISTER STOPS OVER--Hanoi, 18 Sep (VNA)--Hu Sen, Political Bureau member of the People's Revolutionary Party and minister for foreign affairs of Kampuchea, stopped over here today on his way home after attending the 40th National Day of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. He was greeted and seen off by Nguyen Co Thach, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and minister for foreign affairs. [Text] [BK181635 Hanoi VNA in English 1545 GMT 18 Sep 84]

LETTER SENT TO ROMANIA--To Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania; Comrade Constantin Pasescucu, prime minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania; and Comrade Nicolae Gheorghiu, chairman of the Grand National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Romania: We want to express sincere thanks to you, and through you, to the RCP, the Grand National Assembly, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and to the fraternal Romanian people for the friendly congratulations extended on the 39th anniversary of the DRV's national day. May friendship between the Vietnamese and Romanian peoples strengthen and develop constantly. We wish the fraternal Romanian people increasingly greater successes in the work of building socialism. Le Duan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam; Truong Chinh, chairman of the DRV State Council; Phan Van Lam, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, and Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the SRV National Assembly. [Text] [AC28104] Broadcast BC181018 to Romania 15 Sep 84 p 5]

DELEGATION FROM JERU SALES--On the occasion of our 39th National Day, Chairman Truong Chinh received greetings from President Hussain Mohammad Ershad of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, President Maimoon Abdul Razzaq of the Republic of Maldives, King Birendra of the Kingdom of Nepal, President Ziaul Kar of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and President Jayawardene of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka. [Text] [BK190549 Hanoi VNA in English 1545 GMT 18 Sep 84]

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

ROLE OF POLITICAL CADRES DISCUSSED

Hanoi QUAN HOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 9 Jul 84 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Improving Ability of Political Cadres"]

[Text] Political cadres are the authorities charged with the conduct of the party's activities and the Army's political affairs. They serve as a foundation on which activities of other military personnel will shape up in accordance with the principle that the conduct of the party's activities and the Army's political affairs is a shared responsibility for every branch and everyone within a unit.

Political cadres of all echelons in the Army are a choice collection of people selected to meet the need of the new mechanism and whose performance is guaranteed to be successful. In fact, this is a breed of cadres who were forged, challenged and matured by and with the war, and who have gathered a tremendous amount of experiences in political affairs during their years with the Army.

However, a number of political cadres at the bases are still caught unprepared when confronted with the task of conducting the party's activities and the Army's affairs.

Resolution 07/NQ-TU issued by the Political Bureau affirmatively stated: "The conduct of the party's activities and the Army's political affairs must be envisaged in strict accordance with the need of the party and the Army, and they must be in perfect harmony with other military, scientific, technical and rear service activities." The party's activities and the Army's political affairs must, therefore, produce a beneficial impact on every activity and the life of the military personnel laying the foundation for the Army in general, and each unit in particular, to perform their political mission successfully. But this task requires a keen sense of responsibility. In every possible and positive way, the political cadres have to strive to bring every individual, every military activity under the influence of the party and constantly improve the fighting strength of the Army.

To attain this goal, it is essential for the bases to have political cadres whose knowledge of the party's policy and its administration is solid enough

to enable them to serve as an efficient coordinator of the commander's activities and those of the political organizations and the party. They must also thoroughly inform themselves of the party's standpoint toward military activities and of what course to adopt while carrying out their political duties regarding combat readiness, combat, classroom and field training and the welfare of the troops. It is also essential that they make the cadres and troops thoroughly aware of the party's lines of conduct, of the importance of their role, of any orders and directives issued by the commander of the unit and of the need to faithfully obey these orders, however difficult they may be. Local party and people's organizations as well as small military units from the platoon level must be consolidated before, during and after each combat so as to make them even stronger after each combat. The false idea that since each unit has a commander, it is up to him to formulate any decision, any order, any combat tactics, and that the party and political cadres have no part in educating the public or seeking their cooperation, has to be thrown out. Passive attitudes like that of some political cadres who, puzzled by the complexity of the assignment method--sometimes unfair--made by the commander, stay behind and assume rear service duties or substitute for technical cadres when there is a shortage of personnel, must also be discarded. Political cadres must adopt a positive attitude when discussing with the unit commander matters regarding the coordination of political and party organizations. They must constantly keep in touch with the unit commander so as to be informed of all orders and directives issued by higher authorities. They must discuss with him the methods of execution in order to thoroughly understand his position on matters that need supervision, to understand his position on the management of the party's activities and political affairs, and to work out with him the methods of supervision and the guidelines for the implementation of the Party's activities and political affairs. They must also report to him the current political situation, the spirit of the troops, the quality of leadership and the fighting capacity of the party organizations.

The new mechanism is being structured; experiences on the implementation of the party and political tasks in this new situation have been gathered. The political cadres must attach a strong emphasis to their sense of responsibility, to their devotion and to their self-improvement. On the other hand, the higher authorities and commanding officers--especially those directly involved--must constantly support, supervise, encourage and control their subordinates in every work to which they are assigned. They must provide the political cadres with favorable working conditions to help them coordinate the work of the parties involved and successfully perform their party and political missions and thus earnestly contribute to the development of the unit. This, in turn, will lead to success in combat and in other missions.

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

QUANG NAM-DANANG CONFERENCE--The Quang Nam-Danang provincial party organization's executive committee recently held a conference to discuss a program of action to implement the resolution of the sixth party Central Committee plenum. The conference assigned various economic sectors and branches to formulate projects to help state-run enterprises reorganize production. The province's immediate tasks are to establish working teams for various enterprises, cooperatives, and districts to study the division of labor, reorganize production at grassroots production establishments, improve marketing management, and establish progressive models in accordance with the new economic managerial system. [Summary] [BK060619 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 2 Sep 84]

HAU GIANG PARTY CONFERENCE--The Hau Giang party committee recently held a conference of core cadres to study the resolution of the sixth party Central Committee plenum, discuss measures to strengthen industrial production management, small industry and handicraft sector, circulation and distribution, and market management. The provincial people's committee has also formulated a plan to implement the program of action set forth by the provincial party organization, especially the acceleration of agricultural production, combining agricultural transformation with industrial and business transformation, and strengthening socialist business network. [Summary] [BK060619 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 5 Sep 84]

CSO: 4209/466

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

NEW EXPORT POLICIES PROPOSED FOR NORTHERN BORDER PROVINCES

Hanoi NGOAI THUONG in Vietnamese Jul 84 pp 20-25, 28

[Article by Pham Thinh: "Some Thoughts on the Export Activities of the Northern Midland and Mountain Provinces"]

[Text] I. The Position, Characteristics and Rich, Diverse Economic Potentials of the Northern Midland and Mountain Provinces of Our Country

The northern midland and mountain provinces of our country are: Son La, Lai Chau, Hoang Lien Son, Ha Tuyen, Cao Bang, Lang Son, Quang Ninh, Ha Bac, Bac Thai and Vinh Phu. These provinces measure roughly 98,000 square kilometers, 30 percent of the country's territory, 65,000 square kilometers, 66 percent, of which are forests and forest land (forests alone cover 25,000 square kilometers). There are only 950,000 to 1 million hectares, roughly 10 percent of the entire region, on which grain can be raised (about 700,000-750,000 hectares of land available during the entire year on which rice is raised and 300,000-320,000 hectares on which subsidiary food crops are raised). The population of these localities, which now stands at roughly 8.2 million, consists of many different ethnic groups, the largest being the ethnic Vietnamese, 4.7 million persons, followed by the Tay, Nung and Thai. The population density is low, 83 persons per square kilometer (the nationwide population density is 160 persons per square kilometer); at some places, such as Lai Chau, there are only 18-19 persons per square kilometer.

Because it is a region of complex terrain and many rugged mountains, communications and transportation within the region are difficult, especially within each province and within the highland border districts. The region encompasses many very different microclimatic areas. The plant and animal life within the region is very diverse and rich. It is also a strongpoint of the region, one that can be used to develop the production and harvesting of export goods.

It is a region in which the cultural level, the level of social development and the level of production are, generally speaking, both low and uneven--especially in the mountain provinces. Material bases are, for the most part, still underdeveloped (except in a number of provinces).

The midland and mountain provinces, which share a 1,457 kilometer border with China that runs along the provinces of Quang Ninh, Lang Son, Cao Bang, Ha Tuyen, Hoang Lien Son and Lai Chau, must contend on a day to day basis with the wide-ranging war of sabotage being waged by the reactionaries within ruling circles in China. They occupy an especially important position in the effort to carry out the two strategic tasks of building the material and technical bases of socialism while building our national defense and security forces in order to firmly defend the socialist fatherland. Therefore, efforts must be focused on building this region in order to create the combined strength needed to successfully perform these two tasks.

The midlands and mountains, the large industrial and mineral region of the fatherland, encompass such large industrial zones and complexes as Thai Nguyen-Go Dam in Bac Thai Province, Viet Tri-Phu Ninh-Lam Thao in Vinh Phu Province, Quang Ninh and so forth and hundreds of enterprises and federations of enterprises in many different economic sectors: iron and steel enterprises, non-ferrous metal mills, paper mills, chemical plants, building material enterprises, phosphate and nitrogen fertilizer plants, textile mills, sugar mills, tea processing plants, canned vegetable and fruit plants, power plants, coal mines and so forth. It is a region that has large reserves of many valuable minerals, such as coal, tin, zinc, apatite, bauxite, gold, etc.

The region has large and rich energy sources: in addition to coal, many large, medium and small-scale hydroelectric power projects can be constructed along the Lo River, the Chay River, the Gam River, the Red River, the Da River, the Ky Cung and Bang Giang Rivers and so forth.

The region's vast forests and forest land provide many valuable forest products and special products, such as wood, giant rattan, rattan, tre and sua bamboo, industrial crops, oil bearing plants, pharmaceuticals, etc.

In particular, this is a region that has many rich and diverse capabilities and potentials for developing the production and harvesting of export goods both in the immediate future and over the long range, such as minerals (coal, tin, apatite, chromite, barite, zinc and so forth), machine products (hand tools), industrial food products (machine processed tea, canned vegetables and fruit, vegetable oil and so forth), perennial industrial crops (tea, Tung oil, lacquer, anise, cinnamon, small bamboo and Kamala), essential oil plants (citronella, elsholtzia, pemu, Litsea citrata and castor oil plants), annual agricultural crops (tobacco, soybeans, peanuts, garlic, pimento, ginger and saffron), valuable medicinal plants and fruit crops (bananas, pineapples and oranges). The region has the potential for developing buffalo and cattle production to provide draft power for production, supply beef to meet domestic needs and provide some exports and supply leather to develop the leather processing industry and the production of export goods. It is also capable of developing the production of ducks and geese to supply down and some products from ducks and geese for exportation. In Quang Ninh Province, the capabilities exist for cultivating, harvesting and marketing marine products for exportation and for ship supply and service businesses.

In view of the region's many famous, scenic sights (Ha Long Bay, Ba Be Lake, Nhi Thanh Cave, Tam Thanh Cave and so forth), its many historic ruins and

vestiges of resounding feats of arms in the two wars of resistance and the fact that it was the "crucible" of our Vietnamese revolution (the Hung Temple, Pac Bo, Son La Prison, Tan Trao, Hong Thai, Bac Son, Dinh Ca, Binh Ca, Dien Bien Phu and so forth), the region also has many potentials and prospects for the development of tourism in the not too distant future, which is a sector that must be strongly developed in order to earn foreign currency.

II. The Situation Surrounding the Implementation of Export-Import Plans and the Initial Changes That Have Occurred in Export-Import Activities During the Past Several Years in the Midland-Mountain Provinces

To begin with, let us review a few figures on exports and imports over the past several years.

As regards exports, the midland and mountain provinces of the North have made many efforts during the past several years, as a result of which their exports have gradually risen: exports rose 30 percent in 1982 compared to 1981 and 23 percent in 1983 compared to 1982. Between 1982 and 1983, exports increased at a considerable rate in some provinces, such as Vinh Phu, Lai Chau, Son La, Bac Thai and Ha Tuyen, but increased slowly in the other provinces.

The region's total exports in 1983 reached 33 million rubles/dollars. Meanwhile, the imports sent to the region by the central level and the goods imported by the localities themselves in 1983 amounted to 110 million rubles/dollars. Consequently, exports only accounted for roughly 30 percent of import needs. In some provinces, the gap between exports and imports was still quite wide; for example, exports only accounted for one-sixth of imports in Cao Bang and Bac Thai, one-fifth in Lai Chau and one-fourth in Lang Son. Meanwhile, the country's exports in 1983, although still low, provided for 50 percent of import needs (excluding the direct exports and imports of the localities).

Council of Ministers' Resolution 105-HDBT on the development of agriculture and forestry in the mountain and midland provinces and, in particular, the adoption by the state of various decrees, policies and measures designed to encourage the development of exports, such as 40/CP, 113/HDBT and so forth, have had the effect of encouraging the localities to give more attention to export activities and have confirmed one fact, namely, that only by accelerating exports and endeavoring by means of exports to insure the fulfillment of obligations and plans assigned by the state and eventually meet a portion of the locality's needs is it possible to help stimulate economic construction and development. Over the past several years, as a result of this change in thinking, advances have been made and initial changes have occurred in the exports situation of the mountain and midland provinces:

First, exports have increased considerably. The structure and variety of export goods have also begun to be improved: besides such perennial industrial crops and forest products as tea, cinnamon, anise, small bamboo, giant rattan, rattan and so forth, additional products have emerged in recent years: pharmaceuticals and such annual agricultural crops as peanuts, soybeans, garlic, ginger, fresh vegetables, sesame, ginger, saffron and so forth. In addition to the export goods delivered to the central level under

obligations, local exports have also increased at a rather rapid rate. Besides agricultural products, a number of industrial, small industry and mineral products have been exported, such as sand tools, barite ore, etc.

Secondly, the provinces within the region have begun to define the directions in which they will develop, their targets and their chief exports in an effort to make them consistent with the capabilities and potentials of each locality. As a result, each province has begun to define what its chief export crops and species of livestock are, planned and established a number of centralized, specialized farming areas and, on this basis, adopted plans for making capital investments.

For example, there are citronella, lacquer, yellow tea and saffron in Ha Tuyen; cinnamon, Tung oil, tea and citronella in Hoang Lien Son; and red kamala, "may tra" and tea in Lai Chau.

Thirdly, foreign trade activities, in general, and export activities, in particular, have been oriented more toward production installations and supported production. Good changes have occurred in the way that the provinces operate their export and import businesses. Export activities are becoming a focal point in the leadership and guidance provided by the various party committee echelons and local governments.

Fourthly, the acceleration of exports has helped to correct some of the imbalances of the localities. During the past several years, as a result of the development of local exports, the provinces of the region have been able to import tens of thousands of tons of fertilizer, thousands of tons of petroleum products, millions of meters of cloth, hundreds of tons of MSG, thousands of sets of automobile tires and tubes of all sizes, dozens of motor vehicles of all types and many other consumer goods.

Fifthly, the significance and role of exports are deeply and fully appreciated and understood by the party committees and governments on the various levels, especially the provincial level and the economic sectors of the locality, consequently, they have provided more determined, more concrete and closer leadership and guidance, as a result of which the federated export corporations of the provinces and the district foreign trade stations have been further strengthened, thereby enabling the foreign trade organizations to operate better.

However, compared to targets and requirements, especially to the potentials and capabilities of the region, the results that have been achieved are still very small. The changes described above are only initial changes and, in some provinces, especially on the district level, these changes have only begun to occur. The gap between export results and import needs is still very large.

In view of the situation described above, we would like to express some thoughts concerning the guidelines and targets regarding the acceleration of the export-import activities of the mountain and midland provinces of the North in the years ahead.

To the mountain and midland provinces of the North, increasing the flow of exports is not only a task of both pressing and long-range strategic significance that will competently assist in eliminating the imbalances that exist in the various areas, create a new balance for the economy and establish a new economic structure, one that supports industrialization and, in the immediate future, gradually meets the needs of production and daily life, it is also of importance in the struggle against the wide-ranging war of sabotage of the enemy, especially in the struggle against economic and political sabotage, and helps to stabilize the lives of the minorities.

To achieve these objectives, efforts to develop sources of goods must first be directed toward the following types: agricultural products, forest products, processed agricultural and forest products, special products, pharmaceuticals and so forth. Gradual research must be conducted within each locality to find, in addition to anthracite coal, other minerals such as apatite, bauxite, graphite, barite, zinc, titanium and so forth in order to gradually evolve from an agro-forestry-industrial or forestry-agricultural-industrial structure to an industrial-agricultural-forestry structure.

In the immediate future on the scope of the entire region, efforts must be concentrated on successfully establishing sources of the following chief exports:

--Forest products and perennial industrial crops: tea, Tung oil, cinnamon, anise, lacquer, kamala, castor oil, citronella and pharmaceuticals.

--Annual agricultural products: tobacco, peanuts, garlic, pimento, soybeans, ginger, saffron, etc.

Plans and planning must provide for very good coordination among the increased planting and repair of forests, harvesting, procurements and the building of processing plants for a number of subsidiary forest products for exportation, such as small bamboo, "may tra," giant rattan, rattan and so forth.

On the basis of its potentials and characteristics, each province within the region should take a more specific direction and adopt more rational targets in the establishment of the structure of its chief exports. Specifically:

--Hoang Lien Son: tea, cinnamon, Tung oil, camellia, citronella, canned fruit, pharmaceuticals, paper pulp, wrapping paper...

--Ha Tuyen: tea (especially yellow tea), Tung oil, citronella, cinnamon, lacquer, saffron, garlic, wrapping paper...

--Lai Chau: kamala, Tung oil, tea, "may tra," essential oil (elasheltzia), coffee, pharmaceuticals...

--Son La: tea, kamala, "may tra," dried fruit (bananas), soybeans, buffalo, cattle...

--Dai Bang: Tung oil, anise, small bamboo, tobacco, soybeans, pharmaceuticals, peanuts, buffalo, cattle, ducks...

--Lang Son: anise, T'ung oil, tobacco, soybeans, ginger, saffron, buffalo, cattle and ducks.

--Quang Ninh: cinnamon, anise, rushes, pharmaceuticals, cultivated shrimp...

--Bac Thai: tea, T'ung oil, citronella, small bamboo, peanuts, paper pulp, wrapping paper, tools...

--Ha Bac: T'ung oil, castor oil, tobacco, peanuts, pimento, garlic, fresh vegetables, bananas, hogs, ducks and the vigorous development of some traditional trades: lacquer paintings, rattan and bambooware...

--Vinh Phu: tea, lacquer, bananas, peanuts, garlic, etc.

Of basic and decisive importance in developing the products mentioned above and exporting them in increasingly large quantities is the need to adopt specific, effective economic measures and policies.

Measures

First, on the basis of the overall planning of the local economy, each province must determine what the structure of its exports will be in the years ahead and, on this basis, adopt plans and zone areas for the production of its chief export crops and species of livestock and establish suitable targets and stages of development so that appropriate investment policies can be adopted. In principle, each province must plan to export that product, crop or species of livestock that can be produced or raised most efficiently per unit of farmland and which, in addition, is suited to the conditions, capabilities and level of production of the locality.

Secondly, plans must be adopted for gradually investing in the construction of well coordinated material bases for the production of export goods, such as warehouses, production and procurement stations and farms, processing plants and so forth; at the same time, suitable scientific and technological advances must be quickly applied in the production and processing of export goods in the years ahead with a view toward constantly raising productivity and both the output and quality of export goods.

Thirdly, each province must study and re-examine the present situation in order to establish a clear division of labor and responsibilities among the various levels and sectors in organizing and guiding the production, procurement, delivery and management of export goods. The guidance and management of the locality's export-import activities must be centered in the provincial people's committee in order to regulate and resolve the economic and social imbalances of the province. The export-import activities of the locality must be concentrated within a single agency, the provincial export-import federated corporation.

Fourthly, it is necessary to quickly improve the methods used to formulate export-import plans, that is, necessary to formulate, integrate and balance plans from the district level upward and within the scope of the district as a whole in order to uphold the right of collective ownership of the masses, tap

their creativity and thoroughly develop the economic potentials and capabilities of the locality.

Fifthly, the labor force, sectors and trades of the locality must gradually be redistributed and rearranged in a manner consistent with the planning and the redistribution of the labor force of the entire country so that they can be utilized in a rational and effective manner in the development of the production and harvesting of export goods. At the same time, plans must be adopted for mobilizing the forces of the army to participate in the production of export goods within the locality.

Sixthly, the various forms of economic ties in the production, harvesting and mobilization of export goods among the provinces (among the provinces within the region and between the provinces of the region and provinces and municipalities outside the region) must be vigorously developed in depth, diversity and effectiveness so that the provinces can support one another in the use of capital and in investments in the development of exports.

Seventhly, the organizational apparatus of the provincial federated export corporations and the export corporations or foreign trade stations of the districts must be quickly strengthened and solidified so that they possess both the skills and the conditions needed to fulfill their responsibilities in the new situation and in the face of the new requirements of export activities.

Eighthly, we must continue to make a constant effort to give each level, each sector and each person a deeper awareness and understanding of the role and significance of export activities at this point in time--that accelerating exports is work of a pressing nature as well as work of a strategic, long-range nature. At the same time, we must further strengthen the close leadership and constant guidance provided by the various party committee echelons and local governments, thereby bringing about a strong and effective change in the development of production and the acceleration of exports.

Economic Policies

Together with the principal measures mentioned above and in order to create the conditions for export activities within the mountain and midland provinces of the North to develop rapidly and strongly, it is necessary, in addition to the general economic policies and policies encouraging the production of exports that have been promulgated by the state, to research and promulgate a number of basic economic policies, such as the following:

Investment policy

This policy, which can be called the most basic and important of all the policies and which must be a satisfactory policy that provides appropriate investment capital for the production of export goods, encompasses many different areas, such as the clearing of land and planting of new crops; the intensive cultivation of existing export crops in order to raise their yields and increase the output of export goods, such as tea, tung trees, cinnamon, cinnamon, anise, lacquer, kamla, "may tra," small bamboo, pharmaceuticals,

cashews and the various types of essential oils; seed, fertilizer and other means of production in order to develop the production of annual agricultural products; the construction of such material bases as warehouses, stations, farms, processing plants, etc.

Many difficulties are currently being encountered in creating sources of capital; however, in addition to the capital supplied and invested by the central level in important objectives and programs, through exports and by means of stepping up exports, capital of the locality can come from various sources.

Possible approaches include:

--Encouraging the people and collectives within the locality to make investments and expand the production of export goods. We feel that the state should allow the locality to use 100 percent of the foreign currency earned from export products produced as a result of such investments for a period of roughly 3 years from the first harvest in the case of export goods that are perennial industrial crops. In our opinion, in order for this to succeed, the locality must register the areas, crops and species of livestock in which these investments are made with the State Planning Commission and the Ministry of Foreign Trade in order to receive their coordination and assistance.

--Expanding the establishment of joint businesses between the central export-import general corporations and the production units and federated export corporations within the localities in order to avoid borrowing capital from foreign countries.

--Expanding the establishment of in depth economic ties between the provinces of the region and the lowland provinces and the municipalities in order to tap the strengths that lie in labor, materials, technology, grain and capital in the development of economic potentials within the mountain and midland provinces. The products that are exported as a result of these economic ties should be considered local exports.

In the immediate future, in our opinion, additional sources of capital can be created in the following ways:

--Localities must allocate for investment an appropriate percentage of their annual revenues from the foreign trade differential.

--It is suggested that the Ministry of Foreign Trade provide practical assistance by permitting the mountain-midland provinces to import a number of essential consumer goods suited to the tastes of the people at a preferential rate in order to create an additional source of accumulated capital for the locality. The provinces should try to import these goods through capital acquired on their own so that they can turn their capital over quickly.

--It is suggested that the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the State Planning Commission give priority each year to supplying some materials and goods in

advance for the procurement of export goods. The Ministry of Foreign Trade should give priority to allocating a portion of foreign trade development funds to support and assist the mountain and midland provinces.

A policy on the use of foreign currency

The mountain and midland provinces have large export potentials; however, at present, and for the next few years, their sources of export goods are decentralized and small, the volume of exports is not large and material bases are still underdeveloped. In order to create the conditions for these provinces to acquire additional capital for the construction of material bases and take the initiative in strongly investing in the areas producing crops and livestock for exportation, we feel and suggest to the state and the Ministry of Foreign Trade that it is necessary to study and examine the possibility of allowing the mountain and midland provinces to keep the following:

- + One hundred percent of the foreign currency earned from the exportation to non-socialist markets of products that are either produced by the people (products that have long been available or are entirely collected, harvested, produced, caught or raised by the local people) or produced as a result of investments made by the local government, such as yellow tea, special product tea, cinnamon not raised within planned cinnamon growing areas, anise, lacquer (except in Vinh Phu), chameleons, etc. If, for some reason, the products mentioned above must be exported to the socialist market, these provinces should be reimbursed by the state for their supplies and goods at the rate of 70 to 90 percent of the value of their exports (depending upon the product) at lateral import prices (essentially consignment prices).

- + Fifty percent of the foreign currency earned from the exportation of products in which the state has partially invested to non-socialist markets and reimbursement at the rate of roughly 30 percent of the value of exports in the form of materials and goods if these products are exported to the socialist markets.

- + Twenty-thirty percent of the foreign currency earned from the exportation to capitalist markets of export goods in which economic installations of the state have made large investments and reimbursement of roughly 10 to 20 percent of the value of exports in the form of materials and goods if these products are exported to the socialist markets.

- + There must be a division of labor and management responsibilities between the province and the districts and villages concerning the list of export goods. An appropriate percentage of the foreign currency earned must be distributed to the district and an appropriate bonus fund in Vietnamese currency must be established for villages, installations and producers.

A policy on the establishment of the "border product fund"

With regard to the mountain provinces that share the border with China, export-import activities must not only help to eliminate imbalances and build and develop an increasingly strong and solid local economy, but must also actively contribute to the struggle against the enemy's economic sabotage,

political sabotage and sabotage of daily life. To accomplish this, in our opinion, the state (central and local levels) must establish for the export-import federated corporations within these localities a fund of certain goods consistent with the consumer needs and tastes of the local people for supply in advance to persons who produce, harvest and gather export goods with a view toward putting all sources of exports under state control while helping to limit the enemy's economic sabotage and resist the enemy's psychological war. This fund, called the "border product fund for the procurement of export goods" would constitute an important part of the general "border product fund" of the locality.

In our opinion, in order to create this "product fund," we can supplement what is now available by the following methods:

--First, the province can re-examine its existing ability to supply goods, take the necessary percentage from the overall supply balance by the State Planning Commission and allocate it to the export-import federated corporation.

--Secondly, depending upon the specific export product, the central export-import general corporations can create the conditions needed to provide some materials and goods in advance on the basis of economic contracts signed with the localities.

--Thirdly, as mentioned in the section of this article on investments, the Ministry of Foreign Trade should permit the provinces to import a number of essential goods and materials (a few or many) as required by the locality using foreign currency earned by the locality itself at a preferential rate 20 to 30 percent higher than in the other regions.

The policy on stabilizing the obligation to deliver goods to the central level.

To encourage the mountain and midland provinces that have the conditions needed to develop production to rapidly increase the sources of export goods and step up their exports in order to make positive contributions toward balancing the local economy and gradually reducing the investments and goods provided by the central level to these localities, we suggest that the State Planning Commission study the following:

--Stabilizing the obligation to deliver the following products to the central level for a period of at least 5 years: tea and cinnamon in Hoang Lien Son Province; black tea in Ha Tuyen Province; tea in Son La Province, tea and lacquer in Vinh Phu Province; tea in Bac Thai Province; anise in Lang Son Province; cinnamon in Quang Ninh Province; peanuts in Ha Bac Province, etc. Goods that are delivered to the central level over and above these obligations or outside these obligations should be considered export goods of the locality.

A policy on using grain to procure agricultural and forest products for exportation.

In the next several years, increases in the intensive cultivation of grain will not be sufficient to immediately meet the consumer needs of the people; however, in the mountain and midland provinces, from the perspective of developing their three strengths, grain is of very decisive significance in the lives of the people. Resolving the grain problem in this region is a very difficult matter. Therefore, we feel and suggest:

--The state should procure agricultural products, forest products, special products and so forth in the mountain provinces, especially in highland areas, by trading grain for them. The matter of who is eligible to trade products for grain should be studied and regulated by the provincial people's committees.

--The provinces must focus their efforts on strongly developing their exports under the guideline "using short-term crops to support the production of long-term crops" and make full use of one and two rice crop fields and other farmland in order to vigorously develop the production of such annual agricultural products as peanuts, beans of all types, garlic, pimento, sesame, ginger, saffron, valuable pharmaceuticals and so forth wherever possible. At the same time, they must take positive step to gather and harvest forest products, special products, byproducts and so forth for exportation in order to earn foreign currency with which to import some grain for supply and sale as part of two-way trade to the people.

--The mountain and midland provinces have the ability to develop livestock production, such as the raising of cattle, buffalo and hogs; however, because transportation within these provinces is still very difficult, they have been unable to organize the procurement, transportation and delivery of livestock to slaughtering and processing plants for exportation. On the other hand, we are still encountering some difficulties in our exportation of meat. Therefore, in our opinion, these provinces can send buffalo and cattle to adjacent provinces, where transportation is better, for slaughtering and domestic consumption and should ask the state for permission to trade their livestock for grain with which to supplement the local grain supply or for export goods so that they can import grain.

A policy on encouraging the forces of the army to participate in the production of export goods.

In order to mobilize the forces of the army to actively participate in the production of export goods, as stated under the fifth measure mentioned above, we must adopt an appropriate incentive policy:

--The forces of the army that participate in the production of export goods must be allowed to retain a certain and appropriate percentage of the foreign currency earned from the exports they produce and be allowed to import or be supplied with consumer goods and materials for production based on the value of their exports.

The adoption of a system and scale of bonuses and inducements in the form of material goods or Vietnamese currency for individuals and units in the army

that record many achievements in producing, harvesting, gathering and raising export goods and in the sale of goods for exportation must be studied.

If these basic and practical measures and economic policies are researched and effectively implemented, we are confident that very basic changes will surely occur in the export-import activities of the mountain-midland provinces in the years ahead, thereby competently supporting economic and social development in the mountain and midland provinces between 1985 and 1990.

7809

CSO: 4209/458

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

LARGE INCREASE IN EXPORTS PLANNED FOR 1985

Hanoi NGOAI THUONG in Vietnamese Aug 84 pp 3-5

[Article by T.P.: "Understanding the Requirements and Specifics Involved in the Formulation of the 1985 Export-Import Plans of the Localities"]

[Text] Since the implementation of the policy on assigning export-import management and planning responsibilities to the provinces and the municipalities and special zone directly subordinate to the central level (abbreviated as the localities), especially since the state's promulgation of a number of policies and the Resolutions 40/CP, 200/CP, 113/HDBT and so forth, new features and marked changes have characterized the formulation and balancing of export-import plans, especially the export plans of the localities.

However, compared to export-import requirements and tasks as set forth in the resolutions of the party, these improvements are still small and many more efforts are required. In the formulation and balancing of export-import plans as well as the process of organizing the implementation of export-import plans, especially export plans with the various localities, although advances have been made and although methods of operating and ways of thinking have been improved over the past several years, there are still a number of shortcomings and weaknesses:

We have not truly based our efforts on or made our starting point the capabilities and requirements of the production installations and the consumer needs of foreign markets. Therefore, we have yet to develop the potentials, real capabilities and strengths of each locality. The goods produced in some localities are not of export quality or suited to the tastes and demands of consumers, consequently, they cannot be exported or cannot be exported in larger quantities, and some goods have even lost markets. There is no close coordination between nor have we attached appropriate importance to the norms of the central export plan and local export norms nor do we fully realize the relationship and reciprocal impact that exists between central export norms and local export norms. The rapid increase in the volume of exports in the recent past has not been accompanied by or coordinated with support plans for bags, warehouses, processing, transportation, shipping-receiving and so forth, as a result of which all goods available for exportation have not been collected. Some federated export corporations have not given their attention to fully meeting the commitments made in contracts concerning product delivery

deadlines and schedules, thereby significantly affecting export plans. The relationship between exports and imports has yet to yield high returns and has yet to truly become a relationship of exporting goods in order to import other goods, importing goods to support production and rapidly increase our exports. Many localities are not fully observing the procedures, regulations and stipulations concerning the formulation, integration, balancing and submission of export-import plans or the regulations on periodically reporting to the Ministry of Foreign Trade on the implementation of plans and are not meeting requirements, consequently, they have significantly affected the effort to integrate and balance plans and the reporting of the situation throughout the sector to the state. Some federated export-import corporations have not disseminated a number of policies, measures and requirements of the state and the Ministry of Foreign Trade concerning exports-imports and the formulation of yearly plans, have not provided the basic levels, especially the district level, with detailed guidance in fully implementing these policies, measures and requirements and have not provided installations with much assistance; as a result, many districts are still confused about how to formulate, balance and organize the implementation of export-import plans.

Effective steps must be taken to correct and rectify these shortcomings and weaknesses in the process of formulating and guiding the implementation of 1985 plans.

The tasks of the 1985 state plan occupy an extremely important position, requiring that we meet immediate requirements of production and everyday life while endeavoring to meet the four general economic and social targets of the 1981-1985 Five Year Plan that were set by the 5th National Congress of the Party. And, one of the tasks of strategic significance at this point in time is to bring about a strong change in export activities. It is necessary to quickly increase the value of our exports many times by making every effort to increase the sources of goods while constantly improving the quality of export goods.

In this spirit and in keeping with the thinking behind the formulation of the state plan for 1985, namely, continuing to display a high degree of self-reliance, vigorously tapping the spirit of collective ownership of installations and the masses, developing management potentials, developing the capabilities that lie in our labor and arable land, accelerating production, meeting and exceeding the primary norms set by the 5th Congress of the Party, thoroughly implementing the principles of accounting and socialist business in plans and bringing about a new change in the weak areas of the economy, especially in the field of distribution and circulation, the foreign trade sector must implement a 1985 export plan that, in terms of value, is 61 percent higher than the 1984 plan, with the value of local exports increasing by 60 percent compared to 1984; in terms of primary export goods, the volume of exported agricultural and processed agricultural products will increase by 60 percent, the volume of marine and aquatic products by 56 percent and the volume of light industrial and handicraft goods by 8 percent.

In order to perform the task mentioned above, we must focus our efforts on accelerating the production, harvesting and exportation of agricultural products (both raw and processed) and marine products; expand and develop the production of light industrial, small industry and handicraft products; increase our contracting and cooperation in production with the socialist countries; and organize the production and contract production of a number of products for some capitalist markets as permitted by production capacity and conditions.

+ As regards agricultural and processed agricultural products, efforts must be concentrated on accelerating the production of such annual agricultural products as peanuts, beans of all types (especially soybeans), tobacco, jute, rushes, garlic, pimento, onions, fresh vegetables, bananas, essential oil plants (citronella, peppermint, elsholtzia, pemu, Litsea citrata, castor oil and so forth), sesame and so forth on land that has been planned for these crops, with special attention given to making maximum use of land during the winter season.

As regards such perennial crops as coffee, tea, rubber, T'ung trees, fruit trees, kamala, cinnamon, anise, cashews and so forth, together with expanding the amount of area under cultivation, importance must be attached to practicing intensive cultivation to raise crop yields (with attention given to making well coordinated investments to achieve specific objectives) in order to achieve the highest output (harvested output and exported output) possible under the current rate of development.

+ As regards forest products, we must adopt very good harvesting plans and measures and establish investment policies (for investments in the planting of new forests, the cultivation and repair of existing forests and in processing plants and equipment) that are designed to insure the full collection of the raw materials, products and commodities provided by a number of main crops, such as giant rattan, rattan, tra and true bamboo, wood, pharmaceuticals, pine resin, etc.

On the other hand, joint businesses must be established in the harvesting and pre-processing of raw materials and products for exportation between areas that have and supply raw materials and areas that have labor, technology and manual skills on the basis of satisfying economic interests and implementing the principles of equality and mutual benefit.

+ As regard aquatic and marine products, in addition to stepping up the harvesting and catching of shrimp, squid, fish and other special products at sea, in rivers, streams and so forth, it is necessary to adopt effective plans and measures for investing in the expansion of the cultivation of brackish water, salt water and fresh water shrimp. When large quantities are being produced, thought must be given to exporting aquatic and marine products in forms: fresh and processed (frozen, dried and so forth).

+ Light industrial and handicraft goods will soon account for a rather large percentage of the total value of exports. Accelerating the production and exportation of the products of this group will make positive contributions to the creation of jobs for tens of thousands of laborers while increasing the

sources of state-operated revenues in order to increase the accumulation of capital for the budget and raising both the quantity and value of exports. The specific directions in which the development of the products of this group will take are:

--Making full use of and concentrating on developing those products that are produced from available, domestic raw materials (available within one's locality or through joint businesses with other localities) in order to produce such export goods as rattan and bamboo products, rush, corn, coconut, palm and jute products, art products, earthenware, pottery, ceramics and so forth.

--Entering into contracts with central agencies (on the basis of existing equipment capacity or retooling through investments in intensive development) to produce such products as tool, metal consumer goods, household utensils, sundries, shoes and sandals, athletic and sport equipment, wood products, rubber products, leather goods and so forth.

--Entering into contracts with foreign countries (through the central export-import general corporations or directly with foreign countries if permitted) to expand the contract production of a number of products, such as ready-made clothing, wool rugs, embroidered products, lace products, "venise," knitted goods, woven products, etc.

--As regards minerals, we must gradually conduct research, conduct explorations, seek customers and eventually organize the mining and exportation of a number of minerals that might exist within the locality, such as barite, mica, building stone, zinc, graphite, etc.

As regards imports, the localities must give priority in the use of the foreign currency that they earn on their own to importing supplies and raw materials needed to support the development of production, in general, and the production of export goods, in particular, and import some essential consumer goods to meet the needs of the local people and establish a supply of goods for use in obtaining export goods within the locality through trade and procurements for the purpose of helping to rapidly increase the volume and value of exports.

To implement the guidelines and carry out the tasks mentioned above, the formulation of the export-import plans of the localities can be carried out in the following stages: first, after receiving the control figures for the 1985 export plan from the State Planning Commission and the Ministry of Foreign Trade, the federations of export-import corporations and the federated export corporations must closely coordinate with the Planning Commission and, under the leadership and guidance of the local people's committees, must research, carefully calculate and propose plans for establishing the necessary balance for each norm, including both central export and local export norms.

--Central export norms encompass those goods (their quantity and value) for which norms are assigned by the state and under which the localities have the obligation of delivering all products produced to the central level, which, in turn, has the responsibility of rebalancing the supply of raw materials, fuel,

building materials, grain and so forth in order to maintain production. Plan quotas must be based on the circulars, directives and decrees of the state and the Ministry of Foreign Trade; quotas on the procurement of export goods or trade for export goods must be based on the latest document of the State Planning Commission (Official Letter Number 705/UB-TH dated 19 June 1984).

--Local exports encompass those goods that lie outside the norms assigned by the state. The materials needed for local exports are provided entirely by the locality (from production to the packaging of the finished product). If export goods are being sent to the socialist countries in fulfillment of obligations to the central level, that which the central level must provide to the locality must be defined in detail. The volume of local exports must be calculated, determined and produced by the locality on the basis of its production capacity and sources of goods.

In the balancing of supplies for the production and the procurement of export goods that will be delivered to the central level to fulfill obligations to the socialist countries, each locality must determine the following: how much of which materials should the central level be asked to supply and how much of which materials can the locality provide through initiative and creativity. It must also decide by which method the central level should be requested to pay for the materials obtained by the locality.

The point that must be emphasized here is: the requirements of the 1985 state plan are very high but supplies, raw materials and equipment are very limited and the availability of many types of supplies will even be less than in 1984. On the average, the state will only be able to provide to the sectors and localities about 60 to 70 percent of the primary supplies required for the tasks assigned in 1985. The state therefore requests that the sectors and localities display initiative and creativity in developing the three sources of supplies that lie outside the supplies provided by the central level, that they establish joint businesses and ties in production and export activities, look for additional sources of supplies and properly implement the guideline "the central level and the locality working together, the state and the people working together" in order to balance and arrange their plans for 1985 in a truly positive and sound manner, thereby insuring that assigned tasks and targets are completed and met. Plan norms, regardless of the sources of supplies used to balance plans, must still be integrated and reported to the upper level.

--Those localities that have permission to export and import goods directly must clearly indicate to which countries they are exporting goods, which products they are importing from which countries and the total value of their exports and imports. They must also indicate where and by which methods their exports are being obtained.

Next, it is necessary to apportion the task among the basic units and, together with them, formulate the plan. Here, the role played by the three levels as the masters of their plan must be upheld and the plan must be balanced on each level. When assigning tasks to installations, the federations of export-import corporations and the federated export corporations must send a number of competent cadres down to installations to

instruct them in the task, policies and requirements, provide professional guidance and encourage installations to work hard; at the same time, they must work with installations to find and resolve problems and adopt appropriate measures, work with and help installations balance their export-import plans and so forth with a view toward developing many sources of export goods and completing the assigned task well.

Every preparation for and the entire process of formulating 1985 export-import plans within the provinces, within the municipalities and special zone directly subordinate to the central level and within the central export-import general corporations must be completed during the first half of September, 1984, so that the Ministry of Foreign Trade can put together and balance the sector-wide export-import plan by the end of September, 1984 and report it to the state at the start of October, 1984.

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CS0: 4209/459

THANH HOA STRESSES INCENTIVES IN DEVELOPMENT OF EXPORTS

Hanoi NGOAI THUONG in Vietnamese Aug 84 pp 27-29

[Article by Manh Thang: "Initial Changes in Thanh Hoa's Export Activities"]

[Text] Thanh Hoa, the largest and most populous of the provinces, with 1.1 million hectares of land and a population of nearly 3 million, has economic strengths in all four of its zones: the mountainous forests, the midlands, the lowlands and the seacoast. For many years, the province fluctuated around 250,000 hectares under cultivation but was still unable to resolve the grain problem and attention was not being given to developing the forest economy, industrial crop growing areas or the ocean economy, consequently, the volume of goods being produced was very small and the province imported 19 times more than it exported. All of which clearly reflected a subsistence style of operation. This situation was impeding the development of production and trade. The life of the people was very hard, especially during years of crop failures. As a result of this situation, export activities were steadily declining and both the value and volume of exports per capita were among the lowest of all the provinces. In 1981, the province's exports amounted to only 30 million dong; in 1982, it exported 125 million dong in products (at new prices) but, in terms of fixed prices, its exports that year actually fell to 26 million dong.

The resolution of the 3rd Party Plenum (1982) charted the course for Thanh Hoa to follow. The province recognized the mistake it had made in its economic guidelines, the mistake of only being concerned with the grain problem, a mistake which reflected a deeply ingrained subsistence mentality. Under the new course that was charted, the resolution of the grain problem must go hand in hand with developing a full-scale agriculture and must be achieved through exports and imports. Grain and exports, the two leading elements, support each other's development. This course has opened the way for all economic zones to develop, with the initial change occurring during the period from 1983 to 1985 and exports being the decisive factor behind this change.

Using export results as a measurement of change, it can be said that 1983 represented a turning point to Thanh Hoa. Calculated at fixed prices, exports reached 176 million dong, the equivalent of 7.6 million rubles/dollars, thereby making Thanh Hoa an average province in terms of exports. However, of

importance was the fact that through exports the province was able to import a significant quantity of goods for the economy and local life: 10,000 tons of urea, 1,500 tons of sugar, 1 million meters of cloth, 120 tons of MSG, petroleum products, automobiles, tires and inner tubes, thermos bottles, radios, fans and so forth, which provided an important source of supplemental goods to support the development of agricultural production, thereby helping the province to balance the flow of money and goods and establish an important source of revenue for the local budget for reinvestment in the various production sectors. The various levels and sectors came to see the strategic significance of export activities and the people became more enthused and confident about foreign trade. This year, Thanh Hoa is endeavoring to export 350 million dong in goods and its target for 1985 is 15 million to 20 million rubles/dollars, which will bring its exports per capita to 300 dong (at 1982 prices). Besides this change in thinking and guidelines, the province has taken a series of specific steps, the first being to establish a clearly defined allocation of crops and replan production within each zone.

Peanuts have become the crop of foremost importance. Initially planted in place of 3,000 hectares of sweet potatoes, peanut production was expanded to 7,000 hectares in 1983 and then to 12,000 hectares during the 1984 spring season; during the coming summer-fall season, peanuts will be planted on about 5,000 hectares in the hills. Although the early storms of the rainy season damaged peanut crops this year, they have not shaken the province's determination to produce 5,000 tons of shelled peanuts for exportation in 1985. The peanut plant serves many different purposes but it is only through exports that it can become a force behind development and spur the intensive cultivation of 100,000 hectares of rice in order to bring comfort to man.

The production of rushes has been and is developing quickly. The value of exported rush products reached 70 million dong in 1983. Thanh Hoa has become the country's leader in the exportation of rush products, exporting more than 3.5 million square meters of woven mats, rugs and bags, and earning 28.66 percent of the money earned by the country through the exportation of these products. Rushes have provided the province with a large source of revenue, especially the coastal districts, thereby helping to provide stable jobs and living conditions for the 15,000 laborers who specialize in the production of exported rush products. Rush fields are being extended far out to sea in order to have some 2,400 to 4,000 hectares under cultivation next year. In 1984, Thanh Hoa's exported rush products will be worth roughly 150 million dong. Through exports, rushes truly become a crop that provides jobs and prosperity to the coastal districts.

The shrimp and fishing grounds that lie scattered along the province's more than 100 kilometers of coastline have also become the scene of greatly increased activity, not because of strong fishing fleets, but because fishermen of Thanh Hoa with thousands of bamboo rafts have been drawn to participate in catching marine products for exportation. Relying primarily upon fishermen, Thanh Hoa is seeking to export hundreds of tons of shrimp, with a target of 200 tons for 1984. The province has invested more than 10 million dong in the cultivation of brackish water shrimp on 2,000 hectares.

In addition to peanuts, rushes and shrimp, the production of tobacco and jute has been planned on the scale of 2,000 hectares for each crop and attention has also been given to developing other crops, such as beans, millet, sesame, castor oil plants, etc. The small town of Sam Son, which lies on the sandy beaches, is also endeavoring to produce a few hundred tons of millet for exportation this year.

The spacious midlands and mountains of Thanh Hoa can become strategic export areas of the province in the years ahead. In its thinking and planning, Thanh Hoa has begun to develop the potentials of the forests and mountains. During this year's summer-fall season, 5,000 hectares of peanuts will be planted on hillsides; in the next few years, peanut production there will be increased to 20,000 hectares. The province's 30,000 hectares of Luong bamboo, approximately 5 million pieces, provide a source of valuable raw materials that can be exported; in the immediate future, attention will be given to harvesting bamboo shoots for tanning and exportation. In the mountains of Thanh Hoa are 10 state farms that raise pineapples, oranges and tea. If additional processing plants are constructed there and industrial-agricultural federations are established, the variety of the export products of the mountains of Thanh Hoa will surely be increased. Thanh cinnamon was once well known. Cinnamon and cardamom are two products concerning which it is necessary to clearly define how many products belong to the central level, how many to the province and how many to the district in order to satisfactorily regulate their interests.

In Thanh Hoa, the above mentioned principle and policy have been concretized for each product and each production area. For example, as regards shrimp, the province raised the procurement price from 50-60 dong to 150 dong per kilogram and fishermen are permitted to buy rice for themselves and their dependents based on the quantity of shrimp sold to the state (2 kilograms of rice may be purchased for every 1 kilogram of shrimp sold) and buy necessary fishing gear and equipment. As regards peanuts, the province has stabilized the quantity of peanuts procured under obligations at 2,400 tons at a price of 9 dong per kilogram with producers being supplied with urea and other goods. The province procures 70 percent of the peanuts raised on each hectare under cultivation, with the balance being sold at the high price of 30 dong per kilogram (19 dong in cash and the balance in other goods). With only about 5,000 hectares under the cultivation of peanuts during the fall season, the province has not set an obligation. In the coastal rush growing area, the province has invested in projects to claim land from the sea and water conservancy projects. The state supplied this area with 6,000 tons of rice in 1983 and additional rice was provided by the province in order to supply 11,000 tons to rush producers and the persons who process finished products; in addition, cloth was sold to producers as an incentive. In order to collect all available duck down, the province has raised the procurement price to 215 dong per kilogram with goods sold in trade and organized many installations to represent it as purchasing agents. To the units of the state-operated economy, which are not eligible for the high price policy, the province sold 13 million dong in goods (1983) to provide incentive for the production of export goods.

In order for the district level economy to actively participate in the production of export goods, Thanh Hoa has permitted six districts [as published](Hoang Hoa, Nga Son, Hau Loc, Thieu Yen and Tho Xuan) that have 14 million dong or more in exports to establish export corporations that practice independent accounting under the direct leadership and management of the district. The districts are entitled to 25 percent of the foreign currency earned from products managed by the province and 78 percent of the foreign currency earned from products exported by the district. The province accepts export goods on consignment and imports goods at the request of the districts. In those districts that have been assigned management responsibilities, export plans are always exceeded and the quality of goods is better. For example, Tinh Gia District expanded its peanut production from 700 to 2,000 hectares. Thieu Yen District procured 14 tons of duck down under a plan that called for 6 tons. Nga Son District has rapidly expanded its production of rushes and jute as well as its mat weaving trade in order to produce 81 million dong in exports in 1984 and reach 1 million dong in 1985.

The province has given very much attention to strengthening the foreign trade organization, which directly handles the leading exports and imports of the locality. In conjunction with building the export apparatus from the provincial to the district levels and strengthening the corps of business cadres, the province has invested capital in the Exports Federated Corporation for the construction of material-technical bases, such as the construction of the corporation's headquarters (10 million dong), the construction of a system of warehouses and the purchase of a fleet of relatively large trucks (30 ton) in order to centralize the goods arriving on the provincial level from the districts. In addition, the province has permitted the corporation to establish a supply of goods to use in trade for export goods or sell as inducements or bonuses to production installations. This supply of goods, which is based mainly on imports, is suitably structured, consisting of roughly 40-50 percent consumer goods. To provide material incentives to persons in the export business, the province has permitted the corporation to keep 50 percent of the profits from commerce for allocation to the three different funds, pays the corporation a bonus for services conducted outside the plan or over and above plan quotas and allows the corporation to keep 60 percent of the bonus paid for the quick unloading of ships. The province has given the corporation a quota on how much money must be submitted for inclusion in the budget each year; if it meets this quota, it is allowed to keep 10 percent of this money for use as capital in the expansion of foreign trade activities and it receives an additional bonus if it exceeds this quota.

Excited over the new way of thinking, looking for new ways of working and having already brought about a change within their province, the cadres and people of Thanh Hoa are even more closely united around and in agreement with the provincial party committee, determined to bring about a fundamental change on the grain and exports fronts in the years ahead.

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

BRIEFS

SEMINAR ON DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM--Hanoi, 16 Sep (VNA)--A seminar on master development program of Ho Chi Minh City opened recently in the city with the participation of more than 100 planners, researchers, architects and economists. The conference discussed long-range development program reaching into the year of 2000 and also the technical and material bases for the city in the 21st century. Almost 30 reports read at the seminar dealt with such questions as transforming and expanding the city, redistribution of the workforce, population, and production, communications development, expansion of the tourist industry, etc. [Text] [OW160943 Hanoi VNA in English 0711 GMT 16 Sep 84]

CSO: 4200/1059

AGRICULTURE

PROGRESS IN LAND READJUSTMENT, COLLECTIVIZATION IN MINH HAI NOTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Jul 84 p 2

[Text] In 1984, Minh Hai Province will try to bring 50 percent of its land and labor force into the collective production system.

Right at the beginning of this year, many districts and the city started the agricultural transformation, paid attention to the cadres' training, entrusted each party member with organizing a production collective and assigned the organization of production solidarity teams and the guidance of economic development of cooperative members' households to the Collectivized Peasants' Association.

Minh Hai has continued the land readjustment, retrieved 1,923 hectares and distributed them to 1,587 households who formerly owned no land at all or not enough land. From 1977 to date, the province has readjusted over 47,899 hectares and distributed them to 25,511 landless households and those having not enough land. In the recent past, the slow reorganization of production following the land readjustment has led to "disintegration at both ends." This year, production solidarity teams are set up as soon as land is readjusted, which has resulted in the creation of 877 new production solidarity teams and in the advancement of 1,267 others to the production collective level. At present, Minh Hai has 3,822 teams with 85,690 households occupying 116,181 hectares of land. Almost all team heads and deputy heads have been trained.

The province has set up 1,046 new production collectives and upgraded 161 others to the cooperative level. Throughout the province, there are 2,436 collectives and 6 collectives [as published], and 97,440 hectares of ricefield have been collectivized, involving 66,354 households representing an increase of 115.11 percent over the same period last year.

Eleven districts and the city (out of a total of 13) have set up 42 cooperatives. Gia Rai District has 10 cooperatives and Cai Nuoc District 8. If 12 cooperatives in the new economic zone are taken into account, the province now has 54 cooperatives occupying 5.99 percent of its total farmland. Cooperatives have slowly developed various trades and occupations, improperly redistributed the labor force and received only a low income. The province

has established 9 state farms including a state forest-fishery with an area of 7,000 hectares and a coconut farm with an area of 4,000 hectares.

The state and collective economies have involved 132,655 hectares representing 44.21 percent of the total rice farming area. Recently, production collectives have formulated projects and drawn up economic, technical and production plans as well as plans to establish product contracts with labor groups and individual laborers. Various localities are continuing to organize more than 300 new production collectives. Generally speaking, the development tempo is higher than in the previous years. The province has considered the training of cadres to be a decisive factor and has stuck to it. Since the beginning of this year, the province has formed and trained 7,833 cadres of all categories. In pursuance of Resolution No 154 on improving the product contract system in the rural areas, the province has provided supplemental training for managerial and accounting cadres, reviewed the [collectivization] movement and quickly corrected shortcomings wherever they were found out, thereby improving the quality of production collectives and cooperatives.

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CSO: 4209/436

AGRICULTURE

EDITORIAL URGES IMPROVEMENT IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT CONTRACTING

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Jul 84 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Perfect the System of Product Contract with Labor Groups and Individual Laborers in Cooperatives and Production Collectives"]

[Text] Over the past few years, product contracting with labor groups and individual laborers in agricultural cooperatives and production collectives has gradually spread from the cultivation of rice to that of other crops and also to animal husbandry and various trades and handicrafts. It is a form of labor organization conformable to the production forces' standards and is a remuneration method which associates the producers' responsibilities and interests with the end product. The broad implementation of this new form of contract has strongly developed the laborers' enthusiasm and self-consciousness and has induced everyone to exert greater efforts, to fully use land and fertilizers, to apply technical innovations, to reduce production expenditures, to completely harvest crops and so forth--thus increasing productivity and harvest output and raising economic effectiveness and the cooperative members' income. The new contract system has had the positive effect of consolidating agricultural cooperatives, accelerating agricultural transformation in the south and, in many areas, further strengthening the material-technical bases of cooperatives and production collectives. The resolution of the Sixth Party Central Committee Plenum has once again affirmed the soundness of the product contract system, asserted that it is a contracting form to be propagated among all cooperatives and production collectives and urged that the new contracting mechanism should be perfected. Perfecting the system of product contract with labor groups and individual laborers in cooperatives and production collectives is a requirement of the improved management of agricultural production installations.

The tasks involved in perfecting the system of product contract with labor groups and individual laborers include the development of good points and the correction of shortcomings in organization and implementation; the drawing of experiences to extend implementation to all cultivated crops and domestic animals and to various trades within cooperatives and production collectives; the adjustment of regulations aimed at resolving newly emerged problems and the advancement and transformation of product contracting into an overall planning and management mechanism in basic production units of

collectivized agriculture. Based on the consolidation of the system of collective ownership of principal production means, the adjustment of economic-technical norms and the improvement in contracting organization will prevent the dispersion of work on small and scattered pieces of land and field, ensure the harmony of all types of interest and raise the cooperative members' income by increasing output and working day value with the main objective of making them constantly feel attached to collective production organizations.

Product contracting is a method of organizing labor, assigning tasks and cooperation in directing production performance by cooperative and production collectives in conformity with the production forces' standards and the products' biological characteristics. Task assignment and cooperation in labor performance must be based on the following principle: For jobs which require a complex technique coupled with the use of machines and material-technical facilities which are common property, it is absolutely necessary to organize and strengthen specialized teams and units to enable them to do these jobs; with regard to jobs for which common material-technical facilities do not yet exist, which are still done by manual labor and which involves the use of ordinary tools, it is advisable to let them out on contract to cooperative members and to link the latter's responsibilities and interests to the end product. The type of product to be yielded, the state of material-technical bases, the geographic and demographic conditions and the organizational scale of each cooperative and production collective must be taken into account in assigning work and exercising cooperation without automatically following any rigid pattern. However, no matter whatever form of work assignment and cooperation is applied, cooperatives and production collectives must firmly adhere to the plan and economic-technical norms in order to manage and direct all tasks well, to assign specific contractual norms to each team, unit and laborer and strictly to supervise, urge on and examine all affairs. It is unwise to entrust all tasks to cooperative members accepting ricefields on contract and to allow them to do all jobs from the beginning to the end so that the collective will do nothing but collect a certain quantity of product just to raise a common fund. Developing production, overfulfilling plan norms and achieving high economic effectiveness are a yardstick to evaluate organization, work assignment and cooperation in cooperatives and production collectives.

The implementation of the new contract system in agriculture requires that managerial cadres in cooperatives and production collectives are not only good supervisors and motivators but also persons capable of directing affairs through economic-technical measures. Letting out work on contract without exercising direction and control is tantamount to entering into a "blank-check" contract. Therefore, providing advanced training for cooperative and production collective management cadres is an urgent task which will endow them with a thorough knowledge of the new management mechanism and with organizational and leading capabilities. The remuneration of these cadres must correspond to the responsibilities assigned to them--that is, the result of the production and business activities of the entire unit.

Perfecting the product contract system in production installations must not be separated from an improvement in the state economic policies and in the managerial methods of various economic sectors. The organization of agencies designed to serve and promote agriculture--first on the district scale--will enable cooperatives and production collectives to take firm hold of the key technical factors in order to direct production and bring into play the strength of the collective and individual laborers, thus infusing a great power into the collective ownership system of agricultural production installations.

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CSO: 4209/436

AGRICULTURE

BUMPER 5TH-MONTH-SPRING CROPS IN BINH TRI THIEN REPORTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Jul 84 p 2

[Article by Anh Trang: "Fifth-Month and Spring Season Wins Success After Going Through Many Ordeals"]

[Text] There was scarcely any year when the 5th-month and spring rice crop in Binh Tri Thien Province was as abundant as the one that has been grown this year. This year's crop has proven to be the most prolific since the liberation of South Vietnam. The entire province cultivated nearly 147,000 hectares including 7,925 hectares of short-term industrial crops (an increase of 15.1 percent over the 5th-month and spring season last year), 9,975 hectares of food crops (an increase of 30.2 percent) and 127,318 hectares of grain crops comprising 77,216 hectares of rice crop. The rice output was 26.3 quintals per hectare showing an increase of nearly 5 quintals over the 5th-month and spring crop of last year and surpassing the plan norm by 3 percent. Compared with the 1982-83 5th-month and spring season, the following increases in per hectare output were achieved: 1.9 quintals for corn, 2 quintals for sweet potatoes, 1.1 quintals for millet, 1.5 quintals for peanuts, 4.4 quintals for hot pepper and 2.3 quintals for tobacco. The grain output converted to paddy equivalent surpassed that in last year's 5th-month and spring season by more than 21,000 tons and included more than 200,000 tons of rice which is a record yield.

/Aftermath of Typhoons and Floods Surmounted/ [in boldface]

The party organization and people of Binh Tri Thien have won success in the recent 5th-month and spring season because they have fiercely struggled and overcome numerous ordeals and difficulties some of which seemed to be unsurmountable. On entering the 1983-84 5th-month and spring season, Binh Tri Thien met with unprecedented natural calamities: Following in the wake of a great typhoon was a huge flood occurring throughout the province and causing heavy losses. The typhoon and flood killed hundreds of people, swept away thousands of houses and nearly 100,000 tons of grain and commodities and destroyed material-technical bases worth nearly 3.14 billion dong.

Owing to the prompt support and aid of the central level and of kinsmen throughout the country and by exerting outstanding efforts on their part,

almost all the local people set up temporary housings only one week after the typhoon and flood and concentrated manpower on the fields to grow the 5th-month and spring crop.

The typhoon and flood affected the irrigation of 23,000 hectares and the drainage of 19,000 others while salinizing another 18,000 hectares; these acreages represented 76 percent of the 5th-month and spring sowing and transplanting area of the province. Though still living in temporary shacks, immediately after the flood recession, thousands of people in the districts of Quang Trach and Bo Trach went to the fields to repair damaged dike sections along both sides of the Gianh River and to remove acidity and salinity from the fields. Within a short period of time, Trieu Hai District mobilized over 200,000 man-days (12,000 people to the work site on some days) to mend 11 canal sections belonging to the south Thach Han water conservancy network in order to provide irrigation water in time for the winter-spring production season. The entire province invested nearly 3 million man-days in water conservance (twice as many as in the previous season) to urgently repair the works damaged by the typhoon and flood and simultaneously to build new ones according to the "joint action by the state and people" motto. As a result, during the recent 5th-month and spring season, the irrigated and drained acreage came to 65,457 hectares including 43,283 ones which were treated so on the people's initiative.

More than 4,000 buffaloes and cattle were carried away and killed by the typhoon and flood. To procure draft power, beside rehabilitating the remaining herd of bovines, the province accepted the central level's aid under the form of 45 tractors; with the help of the agricultural machinery department, district tractor stations actively repaired and restored dozens of damaged tractors and put them again into production. Mechanical plow operators increased the number of shifts and crews and peasants hoed on their own hundreds of hectares of field to sow and transplant the 5th-month and spring crop in time.

The province urged cooperatives to help each other and the people to exchange seed paddy among themselves; on the other hand, the Agricultural Service and various districts contacted Quang Nam-Da Nang, Nghia Binh and Nghe Tinh provinces and brought back over 900 tons of new seed paddy to the production installations.

On the average, 6.3 tons of organic fertilizer were applied to each hectare --an increase of 1.2 tons over the 5th-month and spring season last year. During the recent 5th-month and spring season, the province sent to the grassroots level 18,000 tons of nitrate fertilizer--twice as much as during the same season last year--and 4,000 tons of insecticide of various kinds. Harmful insects and diseases once appeared on a vast area of 19,000 hectares but were immediately wiped out by cooperatives because the latter had enough insecticide at their disposal.

After the flood, a certain amount of alluvium was deposited on the fields and when riceplants started forming boots and ears, rain fell everywhere, making

it convenient for installations to apply intensive cultivation measures to increase crop productivity.

/Investment in High-Yielding Rice Areas/ [in boldface]

The recent 5th-month and spring season differs from the previous ones in that Binh Tri Thien has paid attention to investing in vast high-yielding rice areas which represented nearly 30 percent of the total rice acreage and which yielded more than 40 percent of the total output of the 5th-month and spring crop. In Huong Dien District, the high-yielding rice areas covered 4,834 hectares representing 48 percent [of the total acreage] and yielding 21,366 tons accounting for 62 percent of the total output. During the recent season, every district grew the high-yielding rice crop in a particular region, every village did so on a stretch of field and every family also did the same on a special plot of land. The high-yielding rice areas of the province were concentrated in the districts of Huong Phu, the Hue City suburbs, Huong Dien, Trieu Hai and Le Ninh; each district had from 4,000 to 4,500 hectares of this crop. Right at the beginning of the season, the Agricultural Service held a conference of cooperatives applying for membership of the "10-Ton Villages' and Districts' Club" and drew up a plan to make appropriate investments in these members. The branch of the provincial bank also organized a "10-Ton Cooperative Development Emulation Festival" to make priority investments in high-yielding rice areas. The provincial Trade Union Federation motivated cadres and manual and office workers enthusiastically to serve agricultural production and to concentrate efforts on building high-yielding rice areas. Hue City launched an "industrial-agricultural brotherhood" movement. During the recent 5th-month and spring season, eight machinery cooperatives in the brotherhood movement helped eight agricultural cooperatives promptly repair wornout farming machines and tools and provided them with a number of ordinary and improved tools, thus creating conditions for the latter to attain an output of 4.5 to 0.7 ton [as published] per hectare.

The province and various districts invested capital and materials--especially electricity, gasoline, oil, draft power, insecticide and fertilizer--on a priority basis in high-yielding rice areas. To have phosphate fertilizer to meet intensive cultivation requirements, the province shifted the Ang Son cement plant to the production of phosphate fertilizer in order to supply it in time for application to the rice crop. Generally speaking, not only was the quantity of fertilizer used in the high-yielding rice areas of various districts 30 to 50 percent larger than that used in other areas but its quality was also better, the N-P-K ratio relatively correct and the amount of insecticide sufficient. There were three units which expanded the high-yielding rice areas from 40 to 70 percent of the total 5th-month and spring rice acreages of districts and which greatly increased their average rice outputs and made them surpass by far the overall average output of the entire province; these units were Hue with 35.7 quintals, Trieu Hai with 31.7 quintals and Huong Dien with 30.9 quintals per hectare. As for cooperatives, 64 of them achieved an output of 30 to 35 quintals per hectare; 25 from 35 to 44 quintals; 20 from 40 to 45 quintals; 12 from 45 to 50 quintals; and 18 more than 50

quintals per hectare. Two cooperatives called Thuy Duong and Long Hung achieved the highest outputs--67.2 and 63 quintals per hectare.

From the success of the 5th-month and spring season, the following experimental lesson can be drawn: Faced with great ordeals caused by natural calamities but thanks to the prompt guidance by the central level and to the wholehearted assistance of other provinces, the party organization and people of Binh Tri Thien brought their revolutionary tradition into play, upheld their active, creative and self-sufficient spirit and moved forward to overcome all difficulties, to stabilize their life quickly and to concentrate on the grain production front. All levels and sectors boldly renovated their leadership and guidance method; the district level, in particular, mobilized its aggregate strength by investing capital, materials and manpower in intensively cultivating the 5th-month and spring rice crop. A new feature is the fact that agriculture promoting sectors adhered to the production plan and economic contract and brought materials and goods quickly and directly to the grassroots in the specified quantities and qualities and ahead of schedule.

The districts paid great attention to production installations and assigned many capable cadres to "key position" in cooperatives to promptly help localities remove impediments and simultaneously to propose to the district level to resolve difficulties with production and daily life on the spot.

After obtaining a bumper crop, the collectivized peasants in Binh Tri Thien have enthusiastically fulfilled their paddy obligation. As of 30 June, the whole province has delivered 65,000 tons of grain to granaries, surpassing the planned quota for the 1983-84 5th-month and spring grain procurement. However, the province's party organization and people have affirmed the need to consider subsidiary crops important even after achieving a bumper rice crop because the grain situation still presents a very acute problem and is not yet stabilized. Instead of displaying subjectivism and self-contentment, the Binh Tri Thien people are concentrating all efforts to grow the summer-fall and 10th-month crops better in order to achieve a stable and more abundant yearly grain output to meet the local daily needs and make some contribution to the whole society.

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CSO: 4209/436

AGRICULTURE

DO VAN NGUYEN ON PROSPECTS FOR RUBBER PRODUCTION

OW141643 Hanoi VNA in English 1504 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Hanoi, 14 Sep (VNA)--The director of the General Department of Rubber has said that to make rubber a key economic branch and a main export line is a policy of strategic significance for Vietnam.

Do Van Nguyen, who is a member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, told VNA correspondent that Vietnam has some two million hectares suited to rubber tree growing mostly located in the south, the central highlands and central Vietnam where rubber planting has been practiced as early as 1897. He added: "Statistics show that the rubber acreage covered 13,000 hectares in the 1911-45 period and expanded to 147,000 hectares in 1963."

However, at least 87,000 hectares were seriously hurt or destroyed during the two wars launched by the French and the Americans. After the liberation of the south in 1975 only 55,000 hectares of rubber trees remained, of which only 37,430 hectares yielded latex.

The General Department of Rubber is running 13 companies comprising 112 farms and 19 processing enterprises, the rubber plantations covered 100,200 hectares in 1983 and are expected to expand to 150,000 hectares by the end of this year.

The plantations and processing shops are employing 101,000 persons now as compared to 30,000 at the time of the liberation of the south.

Many new and higher-yield strains of rubber trees have been obtained through import or crossing, yielding from 1.5 to 2 tons of latex per hectare.

On the international plane, Vietnam is cooperating with the Soviet Union and Bulgaria in rubber tree planting and is ready to expand relations with the countries in land reclaiming, rubber planting, exploitation and processing as well as in research development on a mutually beneficial basis. Many overseas Vietnamese have expressed their willingness to contribute to the development of the rubber industry at home.

AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

DONG THAP RICE HARVEST--As of 25 August, Dong Thap Province had harvested more than 20,000 hectares of summer-fall rice or almost 40 percent of the cultivated area. It is expected that the provincial average rice yield is 30 quintals per hectare or 2 quintals per hectare more than the previous crop. Tam Nong, Thanh Binh, and Hong Ngu Districts will collect a yield of 32-41 quintals per hectare. [Summary] [BK060619 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 3 Sep 84]

HANOI FARMERS CONGRESS--The congress of collective farmers in Hanoi has closed after 3 days of working. The congress adopted a resolution and a working program for 380 agricultural cooperatives with the target of producing 500,000 tonnes of food in 1985. [Text] [BK131011 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 12 Sep 84]

CSO: 4200/1059

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MAN ARRESTED FOR SELLING PROHIBITED MATERIALS

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 9 Jul 84 pp 1, 4

[Article by Tran Su: "Distributorship of Reactionary and Indecent Cassette Tapes Uncovered"]

[Text] Nguyen Van Thieu, a resident of Bien Hoa City, Dong Nai Province, was, before the liberation, a puppet warrant officer of the local forces. Despite his reeducation, he was prosecuted by local authorities in 1981 for possession and distribution of indecent materials. During his subsequent reformation, he showed signs of contrition and was released. But recently, he was denounced by neighbors who had reason to believe that he was duplicating and selling reactionary and pornographic cassette tapes. Agents of the Public Security Forces Nguyen Thanh Tung and Nguyen Tien Thom investigated the case and concurred that most of the tapes Thieu duplicated were indeed of indecent character. Thieu usually followed this schedule: At 6:00 am he would leave the house at 4/6 for the house at 90/20 where he would eat and sleep; then at 7:00 pm he would return to the house at 4/6 to receive his customers and duplicate tapes. The house at 4/6 was closely guarded from 6:00 pm to the early hours of the following morning.

To end Thieu's illegal activities, Nguyen Thanh Tung and Nguyen Tien Thom obtained a warrant for his arrest. Armed with the warrant, they waited impatiently for several hours in the dark as the night wore on without noticing anything suspicious. Then finally at 9:15 pm they saw two persons come out of the house at 90/20; and after an "intimate goodbye" the man rushed for the house at 4/6. They waited until the door closed behind the man in order to move closer to the target and verbally take note of every person entering or leaving the house. At 11:30 pm, after the last person left, Nguyen Thanh Tung, Nguyen Tien Tom and two agents of the street protection police closed in. Caught by surprise, the watchman mumbled, then became speechless before the severe disapproving remark made by the security agents. Tung and Thom left him in the custody of the other agents and then proceeded to the room in the back of the house. Pulling open a heavy curtain made of expensive fabric, Tung shouted, "Nguyen Van Thieu, you are under arrest." Sinking in his armchair and smoking a cigarette, Thieu was stunned by the shout. He tried to get up but was stopped by the canon of a firearm. Stupefied, he said, "It's too late," then stared with sorrow at the still running Akai tape recorder and at dozens of tapes lying all over his bed, tapes which he had just duplicated.

Despite his pledge and appeal for pardon, the security agents continued to search the house and confiscated 139 tapes of reactionary and indecent character as well as other paraphernalia.

POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

BRIEFS

CEREMONY FOR 13TH CENTURY HERO--Hanoi, 16 Sep (VNA)--A ceremony to mark the 684th death anniversary of the national hero Tran Hung Dao was held Thursday at Kiep Bac Temple in Hung Dao village, his birthplace in Chi Linh District, Hai Hung Province, southeast of Hanoi. Tran Hung Dao was an outstanding general of the Tran Dynasty who led several victorious battles against the Chinese aggressors in the 13th century. [Text]
[OW160849 Hanoi VNA in English 0713 GMT 16 Sep 84]

CSO: 4200/1059

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